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ILAFA CONCERNED ABOUT U.S. STEEL RESTRICTIONS

PY011830 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0302 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Santiago, 31 Jan (EFE) -- The steel industry sector is concerned about U.S. restrictions on steel imports from Latin America, the Latin American Steel and Iron Institute (ILAFA) said today.

A communique issued by the ILAFA office in Santiago notes that the Latin American steel industry turned out 28.6 million tons of steel in 1983, only 4.5 percent of world output.

The ILAFA communique adds that the regional industry's concern arises from the fact that in order to meet the heavy servicing of the foreign debt, nontraditional exports must be expanded, steel being one of them. It also notes that foreign loans were granted to the region mainly by commercial banks in hard currency and at market interest rates. The communique also points out that official banks from developed countries have also granted loans, although tying them to the purchase of equipment in order to boost the export of capital goods which are manufactured with steel produced in developed countries.

The ILAFA communique claims that the Latin American steel-making industry has a right to participate in the world steel market so that the foreign debt can be serviced. It therefore expresses the hope that the steel industry, government, congress, banks, and consumers of the United States will someday understand the situation.

PRESIDENT ALFONSIN LEAVES FOR VENEZUELA 1 FEB

PY011305 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1210 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Feb (TELAM) -- President Raul Alfonsin today left for Venezuela to attend the inauguration of Venezuelan President-elect Jaime Lusinchi. Alfonsin left on board an Air Force Tango-1 plane which took off from El Palomar Air Base at 0848.

Alfonsin spoke to newsmen shortly before boarding the plane following a ceremony shortly after 0800 at which he handed over the reins of government to Vice President Victor Martinez. Alfonsin said: We are going to work effectively to promote Latin American integration and to make this civilized way of life known as democracy respected.

He expressed his satisfaction at being able to make this visit to Venezuela, a country which is an example of democracy in Latin America. He noted that he will discuss the following issues during his talks: economic problems, the foreign debt, internationalizing our trade,increasing our foreign trade, and strengthening our relations with all countries of this continent.

Commenting on the Central American situation, Alfonsin said that Argentina firmly supports the Contadora Group, and he emphasized our country's respect for the principle of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other countries.

The president expressed his hope that this new democratic stage which has begun in the continent will be like a wave that will soon bring the entrie continent under its influence.

Comments Before Departure

PY020053 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Before leaving Buenos Aires today, President Alfonsin stated that Argentina is going to work effectively in seeking the integration of the Latin American continent and respect for the civilized guidelines that belong to a democratic life. The president pointed out that Argentina permanently supports the Contadora Group's negotiations seeking a solution to Central American problems, but denied that Argentina intends to join the group. Alfonsin stated that Argentina intends to support the group in order to safeguard the principle of nonintervention and self-determination and to work, as the country intends to in seeking the consolidation of a pluralist democracy throughout our continent.

The president made these comments to the media at El Palomar 1st Air Brigade, from which he left for Venezuela and Colombia this morning after handing over power to Vice President Victor Martinez. This is President Alfonsin's first trip abroad since he assumed office on 10 December.

In Caracas President Alfonsin will attend the inauguration of President Jaime Lusinchi, with whom he will hold a private meeting. In Bogota Alfonsin will meet with his Colombian counterpart, Belisario Betancur, to seek solutions to hemispheric problems thus strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries. Alfonsin's agenda also includes a meeting with Salvador Jorge Blanco, president of the Dominican Republic, and press conferences to be held in the two capitals during which he will discuss Argentina's situation after its return to democracy.

President Alfonsin noted that he was very pleased to go to Venezuela because for many years it has been an example of democracy in Latin America. Venezuela's relationship with Argentina is a very good one that Argentina will now consolidate with the Venezuelan Government and people. Alfonsin commented that we are going to witness a demonstration of democracy and Latin American integration. This trip will allow him to meet friends from the various Venezuelan political parties who have voiced their generosity, sympathy, and fraternal feeling for Argentina.

Alfonsin said that this part of Latin America is experiencing a new phase, something like a prelude that will probably soon allow us to enjoy these vital and fundamental guidelines within the framework of liberties of a state of law.

When he was asked whether he would ask the United States to define its policy on Central America, Alfonsin said that he is going to see what he will discuss, but pointed out that, naturally, he is going to ask them for a definition.

Discusses Contadora, Falklands, Reform

PY021152 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Feb 84

["Highlights" of press conference granted by Argentine President Raul Alfonsin in Caracas on 1 February -- recorded; broadcast in two 10-minute segments]

[Text] [Name indistict, EL DIARIO, Caracas] I want to refer to Central America and to ask you what you think are the steps for Argentina to eventually join the Contadora Group, and whether you believe this could either hinder or expedite the various negotiations seeking peace for the region.

[Alfonsin] Madame, Argentina does not intend to form part of the Contadora Group, but it has fully decided to support it. We are convinced that this issue must be handled by the countries of the region. Nevertheless, we are convinced of the need to make all possible efforts within the political and cooperative framework -- within any framework that may grant the possibility of solving urgent matters in every field -- that is, we are convinced of the need to support the Contadora Group's efforts and thus to support a solution to the old problems being endured by the people of Central America, people who have decided to get rid of feudal systems and who, in my government's opinion, have been hindered by the interference of the two superpowers.

[Santos Lopez, VENPRESS] During the recent visit Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi made to Great Britain, he offered his good offices as mediator to renew Anglo-Argentine relations. This offer was rejected by Great Britain. The British prime minister argued that there would be no chance for negotiations so long as your government did not declare an end to hostilities in the Malvinas. Does your government regard this awaited declaration of an end to hostilities a matter of principle that would cancel Argentine rights over the Malvinas Islands?

[Alfonsin] Look here, gentlemen: The Malvinas issue undoubtedly is very important for Argentina and I think also for Latin America. Having said this, let me express thanks for the solidarity with our stance that has been voiced here in Venezuela and on the entire continent. Argentina undoubtedly will never cease trying to make its sovereign rights over the Malvinas Islands prevail, but it is obvious that we also want to find some sort of solution that will allow us to start talks, as has been established by the UN resolutions. We want to start a fruitful dialogue that, in our opinion, will undoubtedly lead to the recovery of our islands.

We are perfectly aware that we have great difficulties ahead of us; any realistic criteria will consider that problems of this type are not easy to solve, but we are also aware that, historically speaking, it has been proven that when there is a desire to reach a solution, the corresponding paths can be found. The most illustrative example can be found in Europe after the world war where, despite so much cruel fighting, definite solutions were found that today prove how positions, such as that of the EEC, can be consolidated.

We would really like to unlock this situation and would be willing to hold talks through our respective representatives to the United Nations. We believe that such talks must develop within the framework of UN Resolution 2065 of 1965 and Resolution 37/9, which was issued more recently and received the solidarity support of the entire Latin American continent. We are also convinced that in order for this to be possible Great Britain must lift the exclusion zone and stop fortifying the islands because this, in our opinion, represents a threat to the South Atlantic. If we had the necessary guarantees, if -- for example -- there were some peacekeeping organ to guarantee this, the declaration of a de jure end to hostilities would obviously be issued.

[Carlos Alberto Ruedo, CARACOL Network, Colombia] What further developments can be expected within the next few days or weeks regarding the first agreement signed at the Holy See regarding the border conflict in the Beagle Channel between Argentina and Chile?

[Alfonsin] I cannot mention any deadline because there are rather complex problems to be solved, not only in reference to the islands but also navigation and many other very complex issues. Therefore, as I have said, I cannot determine how long it will take to reach a solution. What I can say is that it is fundamental for us to solve this problem with a brother nation, a brother country, like Chile, because the issue does not end with the solution to the Beagle problem. We want to go forward, and going forward means working in the southern cone for this integration process which I deem fundamental for Latin America as a whole.

[(Joaquin Ibars), LA VANGUARDIA, Barcelona] If you will allow me, I would like to ask you a question regarding Argentine domestic policy. Will it be possible to democratize the Peronist labor unions in a short time?

[Alfonsin] The democratization of the Argentine labor unions, which are formed by men and women of various political currents, will undoubtedly be possible. I want to point out to you that this is an issue that we constantly upheld throughout our electoral campaign and I think that to a great extent the Argentine people chose us because they believed that we would carry out this process to normalize the labor unions. I am convinced that as time passes all sectors will support this process to democratize the labor unions. There will be no event or circumstance that will make us abandon this commitment that we have undertaken with the Argentine people as a whole.

[Unidentified reporter] It seems to be, or it is contradictory to the Contadora position, because the Kissinger Report does not rule out the possibility of armed intervention in Nicaragua or in El Salvador. Mr President, the question is: Don't you believe that a more flexible position on the part of the United States, a U.S. position more in line with that of the Contadora Group, would enhance the chances for those countries to achieve peace in Central America?

[Alfonsin] Yes sir. I believe you are right because the Kissinger report, although it positively addresses, in my view, the social and economic problems, especially the social contrasts in the region, as one of the fundamental causes of what is happening, and it proposes to launch actions in the economic and social areas in Central America, the report -- you said it very well -- does not rule out military intervention. This is why I have said before, I have just said it, and I will repeat it at all times, that the position of the Argentine Government is in support of the Contadora countries. I believe that we have to get to the bottom of this question.

From my viewpoint, it would be important for the United States to state categorically that a socialist government per se does not represent a threat to its security. I believe that if it is made perfectly clear, giving the necessary guarantees, that the existence of a socialist government is no obstacle to the existence of a democratic, pluralist government, not even if socially advanced ideas are included in that government's constitution -- ideas such as far-reaching agrarian reform, socialization of banks, I am just giving examples -- that such a government will be accepted by the United States. If this is done -- is it not enough, although it is eloquent as far as I am concerned, that elections have been announced in Nicaragua -- I believe that common sense is sufficient for us to assume that ultimately no political leader is willing to drive his people to a holocaust for ideological fanaticism. So I believe that, if the question is analyzed more thoroughly, we will perhaps find through that avenue some formula for a more immediate solution to this problem.

[Unidentified reporter] You have implemented a series of reforms of our country's Armed Forces that have established a historic precedent, not only for Argentina but for all Latin American countries. But some Latin American political leaders are afraid that these reforms will make the military, particularly in those countries governed by dictatorships, more wary of helping the people achieve the democratization of their country. Do you believe that the fear of these political leaders is justified?

[Alfonsin] I do not think so, sir, because we only comply with the law. To a certain extent we understand this concern because we believe that we cannot build our countries on the basis of revenge. But I also believe that it is impossible to build the democracy that we all aspire to by giving up our moral principles, which is precisely what we will do if we act as if nothing had happened in our country.

I believe that we have to guarantee the enforcement of the state of rights for all citizens. This is the basis of human dignity. This is what has moved us to oppose both terrorism, which is also based on an elitist concept in our country, and a repression that resorted to the same terrorist means.

We have to guarantee all citizens in our territory the enforcement of the state of rights, due process of law, and a fair trial. We thus avoid all other means which undermine this due process, such as some kind of people's court -- which under no circumstances will we implement in our country at a time when, I reassert, all citizens, overcoming antagonisms, are on the path of national reconciliation.

We understand, we are better aware than anyone that all this will be very hard to achieve because these wounds are very hard to heal. But we shall find a solution to our problems based on justice, truth, and love; we are going to find solutions to our problems.

[Ted Cordova, ANA] Mr President, allow me to ask two brief questions. First: Granted that it is difficult to probe the killing of thousands of people, but I have not heard about investigations of the murder of some foreign personalities in Argentina, such as General Pratts of Chile, General Torres of Bolivia, or Senator Michellini of Uruguay. Are any investigations under way in this regard?

[Alfonsin] We are trying to investigate all of them, sir.

[Cordova] My second question is this: Could you tell us about the agenda of your meeting with Mr Shultz?

[Alfonsin, laughing] No, I don't even know whether there will be a meeting.

[(Aviedo Arena), AP] Mr President, how are investigations on missing persons faring? Is it already known how many there are? Could the involvement of high-ranking military officers hinder the investigations?

[Alfonsin] No, sir. There is a national commission carrying out the investigation with total freedom of action and without restraints of any kind.

[Monica Rodriguez, CARACOL] You recently said that the world arms race should be stopped. However, your country has the uranium needed for atomic bombs.

[Alfonsin] Excuse me.

[Rodriguez] You recently said that the world arms race should be halted. However, Argentina is already manufacturing uranium for nuclear bombs.

[Alfonsin] Oh, my God. Nothing like that. We have an atomic energy commission which has developed technology for enriching uranium. Is this what you are referring to?

[Rodriguez] Exactly.

[Alfonsin] But this is enrichment for peaceful purposes. Argentina will in no way enter into a race of that kind, you can be sure of this, and Argentina will provide the safeguards the case requires.

[Elizabeth Perez, Radio Caracas] It is true that there are tensions between the Alfonsin government and Peronism?

[Alfonsin] Well, tensions exist which are proper in a democracy, which, as you know, is turbulent on the surface. But all Argentine political parties have learned difficult lessons, all of them. We must argue in the proper arena, within the framework of democracy. And this is what is happening.

[Javier Ayala, Colombia Television National News] Mr President, good afternoon.

[Alfonsin] Good afternoon.

[Ayala] Mr President, regarding the border dispute between Argentina and Chile, some people ask this question: How can a democratic government like Argentina's reach an agreement with a dictatorship like Pinochet's, thus throwing a lifesaver to a dictatorship?

[Alfonsin] I would ask those who think this way whether they want us to declare war on Chile and to continue killing Argentines and Chileans.

[Ayala] Another question, Mr President. Do you believe that it is easier at this time to reach or rather to initiate a process leading to an agreement between Argentina and Mrs Thatcher's Great Britain? Or do you believe that there is an unsurmountable obstacle to reaching an agreement?

[Alfonsin] That is a problem that must be evaluated by the British, who I believe should be equally interested in solving the problem. This can be done through elections, and up until now she has gotten the votes. So we have to reformulate relations with the current government, should it stay.

Well, thank you very much. You were very kind.

Supplement to Falklands Remarks

PY021217 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1040 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Official communique of the Argentine Government "supplementing remarks made by President Raul Alfonsin at press conference held in Venezuela"; issued on 1 February]

[Text] In the first place, Argentina will never give up its legitimate rights over the Malvinas Islands. There can be no doubts about what the solution should be. After our conflict with the United Kingdom, it would be unrealistic to think about sudden changes in relations between our two countries. No one should be unaware of the fact that the task of reformulating these relations will undoubtedly be marred by numerous difficulties.

Yet in recent years we have had proof that countries engaged in a harsh conflict can reformulate their relations and develop unprecedented cooperation frameworks. The key element that made it possible for Western countries to reformulate their relations in the wake of World War II was the existence of a clear, definite desire to restore peace. This is why we stated earlier, and are reaffirming now, that whenever the parties involved have the will, we will find the way to reformulate our relations.

What is worrisome about the present situation is that is does not seem possible to find an appropriate way to overcome the impasse, to remove these obstacles that are causing things to remain as they are now.

The Argentine Government wants to find a way to reformulate relations as follows:

a. We are ready to begin talks with the UK through our respective UN representatives.

b. The immediate objective of these talks will be to return our relations and the terms of the controversy between the two countries to the state that existed before the conflict.

c. These talks should be held within the framework of Resolutions 20/65, 37/9, and 38/12 of the UN General Assembly and 505/82 of the UN Security Council.

d. The following basic conditions are necessary for holding these talks: lifting the exclusion zone established by the United Kingdom and a guarantee that it will not continue making a fortress of the island and that it will not continue the military buildup in the area.

e. In order to make this guarantee effective, the possibility of a UN peacekeeping force on the islands should be studied.

f. If the situation is thus modified, a de jure halt to hostilities, with its commercial, economic and diplomatic consequences, will be obviously considered to be in force.

COMMERCE SECRETARY CAMPERO RETURNS FROM BRAZIL

PY012111 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Commerce Secretary Ricardo Campero, who returned from Brazil early this morning, did not rule out implementing control over the meat trade. He said: We will have to do something. We will enact quite strong medium-term measures to control the meat trade.

SENATE APPROVES MILITARY CODE DRAFT BILL

PY012049 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Excerpts] By a 24 to 21 vote, the Senate today passed the bill amending the military code submitted by the Radical Party bloc. The 21 Justicialist Party senators voted against the bill. Formosa Province MID [Integration and Development Movement] Senator Manuel Vidal abstained.

The bill, approved in a session that ended at 0310 this morning, is an amended version of the bill that was passed by the Chamber of Deputies on 5 January 1984. Now it must return to the Chamber of Deputies, where it will be approved or rejected by a simple majority.

COMMUNIST PARTY ISSUES DOCUMENT SUPPORTING UDP

PY011437 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The pro-Moscow Communist Party will continue to do its utmost to reorganize and strengthen a coalition front and seek to broaden it through the support of popular and democratic political forces that agree with the democratization project of the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP]. This decision was taken at the Communist Party Central Committee plenum in La Paz a few days ago. This information was released to the media in a document signed by Jorge Kolle Cueto, a member of the pro-Moscow Communist Party Central Committee National Secretariat.

The document affirms that the party's position on the strategy for democratization is still considered valid, despite the limitations and difficulties. That position stresses the need for a front made up of social classes represented by their political and party representatives who are interested in the peoples' democratic and anti-imperialist project which is proposed by the UDP for this period, a project which must be continued as a political and ideological requirement that cannot be dismissed.

It also affirms the decision by the political commission that the pro-Moscow Communist Party should stay in the cabinet of President Siles Zuazo. It adds that the restructuring of the cabinet has not fundamentally changed the balance of the political and social forces represented. Therefore, it calls for efforts to assert the expression of the UDP forces in the exercise of government inasmuch as they are committed to the implementation of the front's program. The Communists continue to believe that the UDP is still the best option for the liberation of the masses. They contend that the possibility of overcoming the crisis through popular propositions still exists, the possibility of rallying the masses behind a government that is responsive to their interests.

U.S. CRITICIZED FOR CANCELING WHEAT DONATION

PY011326 Paris AFP in Spanish 2238 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] La Paz, 31 Jan (AFP) -- Today a U.S. decision to cancel a wheat donation to Bolivia worth [words indistinct] was criticized here by Labor Minister Horst Grebe, who described it as a pressure move.

Grebe, who is a member of the pro-Soviet Bolivian Communist Party, noted that he is not against subsidies unless these are irrational subsidies that only benefit those who [words indistinct]. He added that any price study must be carried out within the context of the economic model being implemented by the government.

The Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) described the U.S. decision as interference. The COB noted that Washington's decision is a warning to force the Bolivian Government to implement IMF guidelines. Edgardo Vazquez, a COB leader, noted that Bolivian workers and Bolivians in general repudiate the IMF attitude, which has been characterized as enforcement of an antisocial policy. Vazquez noted that this is a U.S. threat, which clearly shows that the U.S. Government is trying to impose certain guidelines in order to subject Bolivia to U.S. policy.

Armando Morales, the president of the COB Economic Affairs Commission, said that although the United States has donated some articles, it is up to the Bolivian Government to decide how to distribute them, because this is a question of sovereignty and dignity.

He noted that the U. S. attitude clearly shows how transnational companies and bankers who control the IMF impose their decisions to continue squandering natural resources through the enforcement of economic models that only benefit those monopolies controlling the Third World.

These statements were issued after the Bolivian Government decided to increase salaries by 57 percent and at a time when an IMF mission is in Bolivia to carry out a study on the economic situation, the 1984 budget, and the balance of payments.

The private sector has warned that the government measures will lead to the bankruptcy of the private sector, adding that only an 8-percent increase in the GDP will compensate for the disbursement. It also noted that the GDP decreased by 15.7 percent in 1983.

BRIEFS

OIL FIELD RESERVES -- The oil field that was recently discovered near the city of Santa Cruz will produce 9.23 million barrels of condensed oil, YPFB [Bolivian Government Oil Deposits] sources have reported. The Santa Cruz 5 well has a daily production of 450 barrels of oil and approximately 7 million cubic feet of natural gas. The sources added that after the other four wells are up to production, the field will produce 3,000 barrels of oil daily. [Summary] [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 5 Jan 84 p 3 PY]

MINING BANK GOLD PURCHASES -- Mining Bank General Manager Pedro Guevara yesterday reported that the bank purchased 1.5 tons of Bolivian gold during 1983, which represents an increase of more than 0.5 a ton in comparison to gold purchases during 1982. [Excerpts] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 8 Jan 84 p 8 PY]

1983 INFLATION RATE -- La Paz, 14 Jan (AFP) -- According to a report released by the National Statistics Institute (INE) today, the 1983 inflation rate reached 328.49 percent, up from 1982's 297.48. The INE added that the 1983 inflation rate was the highest in the past 10 years. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Jan 84 PY]

AGREEMENT ON TRADE LINKS WITH ARGENTINA SIGNED

PY011159 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1000 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Brazil and Argentina are paving the way to closer economic relations. This has just been done through a document signed at Itamaraty by Argentine Commerce Secretary Ricardo Campero. It contains three fundamental items: elimination of tariff and nontariff restrictions on trade; reactivation of the special Brazil-Argentina commission to intensify trade; and a priority search during the next 12 months for new areas in which to complement production activities.

Each country will assist the other so that both can relieve pressures from the north. Every effort will be made to eliminate commercial restrictions, but any trade increase will depend chiefly on the businessmen themselves.

HELIO BELTRAO WITHDRAWS FROM PRESIDENTIAL RACE

PY020219 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Through an official note released to the media at his office in Rio de Janeiro this afternoon, former Minister Helio Beltrao has announced his decision to withdraw his candidacy for the presidential nomination at the PDS [Social Democratic Party] national convention. He also announced that he will support the nomination of Vice President Aureliano Chaves.

Beltrao justified his decision on the grounds that there is neither any room nor any chance of winning the presidential nomination. Under these conditions, Beltrao said that his campaign would only deepen divisions within the party. In his note, Beltrao remarked that he will not keep out of the succession process, but that he will not contribute to deepening party divisions. He also commented that he will strive to strengthen national reconciliation.

BRIEFS

JANUARY INFLATION RATE -- The Brazilian Economic Institute of the Getulio Vargas Foundation has reported that inflation rose by 9.4 percent in January 1984. The accrued inflation rate for the past 12 months totals 176.3 percent. [Summary] [Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 31 Jan 84 PY]

FEBRUARY MONETARY CORRECTION -- The Finance Ministry today officially established the monetary correction for February. It will be 9.8 percent, a record figure since 1964. [Summary] [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 28 Jan 84 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER WORKS ON NUNCIATURE SITUATION

Meets With Nuncio

PY011400 Santiago Radio Mineria in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has held a 45-minute meeting with Apostolic Nuncio Monsignor Angelo Sodano. During the meeting, the Chilean foreign minister told him the details of the meeting that he held with Pope John Paul II on 23 January during which the refugee issue was discussed.

The foreign minister also officially informed the apostolic nuncio that the president has ordered the creation of a commission consisting of four ministers to study ways of solving the difficult problem of the refugees. The minister explained that the case of the refugees is complex and requires time for study. Jaime del Valle also gave the pope's representative some information about the refugees that the Apostolic Nunciature was unaware of, in addition to explaining some problems that the ministers have encountered while studying the refugee situation.

The foreign minister said that the apostolic nuncio reiterated the request for safe-conducts for the refugees, and he added that the nuncio listened with great calm to his explanations. Regarding the situation of the refugees inside the nunciature, the foreign minister said that according to the nuncio, their condition is good.

The pope's representative said that the situation of the refugees was discussed during his meeting with Jaime del Valle and that he received information on the studies being carried out to solve this problem. Msgr Angelo Sodano added that the government was very courteous. He publicly thanked officials for the attention that he has received, hoping that a solution will soon be found to this problem.

Reports on Commission

PY012044 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Report by Chela Contreras]

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has reported that this morning the cabinet members who make up the commission that is reviewing the issue of the refugees at the nunciature have painstakingly examined the contents of the requests submitted by His Holiness John Paul II that the Chilean Government grant safe-conducts to the four refugees. Del Valle also declined to give the pope's reasons for asking that safe-conducts be granted to people who have officially been classified by the government as subversives. Lastly, Del Valle reiterated that it is likely that this weekend President Augusto Pinochet will decide what the government will do in this delicate matter.

ISRAEL REQUESTS EXPULSION OF WALTER RAUFF

PY011635 Paris AFP in Spanish 1442 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Santiago, 1 Feb (AFP) -- Israel today officially requested the expulsion of former Nazi Colonel Walter Rauff. He sought refuge in Chile 25 years ago and is accused of planning the killing of thousands of Jews in the so-called death trucks during World War II.

The formal request was handed over by Israeli Foreign Affairs Director David Kimche during a meeting with Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle in Santiago. Kimche came to Santiago on a 24-hour surprise visit coinciding with the presence of Beate Klarsfeld, the Nazi huntress, who participated in the campaign that ended with the expulsion of former Nazi officer Klaus Barbie from Bolivia.

Expulsion Termed 'Inappropriate'

PY012000 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Special report from the Chilean Foreign Ministry by Carmen Castro]

[Text] Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has said that the expulsion of former Nazi Colonel Walter Rauff from Chile would be inappropriate. A few minutes ago Del Valle was asked by the press about a request that the Israeli government submitted to him through Israeli Affairs Director David Kimche. Kimche traveled to Chile alone, on a special private visit, and held a 1-hour meeting with Del Valle this morning to request the expulsion of Walter Rauff.

In this regard, Del Valle said that he had explained to Kimche that the extradition and the expulsion of Rauff had already been debated several years ago in a Chilean lawsuit, which back in 1963 led the Supreme Court to dismiss the request for Rauff's extradition. Del Valle then went on to say that Kimche understood the Chilean position and dropped the matter right there.

Now, concerning an expulsion -- something that would change the rules of the game -- Del Valle said that it would be inappropriate to expel a Chilean citizen who has led a peaceful life in Chile 20 years after the Supreme Court's ruling. I cannot see why a step that was not taken back in 1963 should be taken now, Del Valle stressed.

ARMY NOTES FARC OFFENSIVE IN MAGDALENA

PA011957 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 30 Jan 84 pp 1-A, 9-A

[Report by German Acero Espinosa]

[Text] Puerto Berrio, 29 Jan -- The commander of the 14th Army Brigade, Brigadier General Farauk Yanine Diaz, has warned that the Armed Forces will be inflexible in its campaign against subversion.

At a news conference with Bogota reporters, he denounced the start of a large FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] offensive taking place throughout the Middle Magdalena area.

Another officer explained that this guerrilla operation was organized by FARC to win support from the Communist Party in the upcoming Mitaca elections.

He insisted that the latest operations in Cerro Grande, Chiquillo, and Santo Domingo and the peasant exodus at Remedios are part of a FARC strategy to sabotage peace programs in the area.

Yanine Diaz explained that, regarding the situation in Remedios, the Army guaranteed the peaceful return of all peasants to their homes in the next few hours and respect for their lives.

He said that the troops of the 13th [as published] Brigade had not engaged in any actions wearing civilian clothes, as speculated in Magdalena circles in efforts to link the Armed Forces with paramilitary groups.

"The men under my command always wear their uniforms and are duly identified. The violent situation in the Middle Magdalena area is delicate," he noted.

During the early weeks of January violent incidents such as the attacks on Carro Grande, Cona Dovada, and Santo Domingo reflected a general offensive by FARC throughout the Magdalena sector.

Yanine Diaz added: "The most striking action was the occupation of Remedios, planned several days in advance by FARC groups."

The official's statements came in the wake of an Army counteroperation in a wide area of the Magdalena.

The 13th Army Brigade has released a communique to the press on the events in Santo Domingo. It revealed that on Saturday, 28 January, when General Yanine Diaz was meeting with members of the Peace Commission to analyze the occupation of Remedios by peasants led by professional agitators, he was informed of the attack on the base at Santo Domingo del Ramo, in Santander.

The 3-hour attack was turned back by the troops. Officer Luis Rojas Oviedo was killed in the action, while soldiers Gregorio Zapata Lesmes, Luis Tabares Hernandez, Luis Zuniga Casierra, and Luis Torres Bedoya were wounded.

The subversives suffered the death of a man named "Hernan" and nine others; confirmation of this will be made later, once the search of the area is completed.

The group that staged the attack was made up of FARC antisocials, reinforced by the region's civilian personnel, which included several very young men and women.

Meanwhile, the town of Cimitarra, in south Santander, is experiencing "a sort of undeclared war between military and guerrilla forces."

Reports have said that in the past 2 days intense shooting has been heard, and it is believed that a heavy guerrilla force is waging fierce battles against Army troops.

The residents of the area say only that "the situation is bad," but are afraid to make further comments.

The Army has mobilized large forces to reinforce its positions in the area in view of this guerrila drive.

The state intelligence services have been able to detect a FARC war plan to attack the most important military bases located in the so-called "red zone" in south Santander.

BRIEFS

PIPELINE DAMAGED -- Five persons were wounded and damage of more than 130 million pesos was sustained as a result of a fire in the Pacific oil pipeline. The fire, which forced the evacuation of thousands of residents because of imminent danger, was put under control some 6 hours after it began. [Summary] [Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 1 Feb 84 PA]

NAMES OF NEW NATIONAL DEPUTIES ANNOUNCED

PA011555 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The final vote count released by the National Information Secretariat shows that Rodrigo Borja Cevallos, presidential candidate of the Democratic Left [ID], received 28.4 percent of the vote, while Leon Febres Cordero, presidential candidate of the National Reconstruction Front, obtained 27.5 percent.

The Social Christian Party will hold four seats in the new Congress.

Unofficial results reveal the distribution of the eight national deputy seats as follows: ID, two; Democratic Party, two; Ecuadoran Roldosist Party [PRE], one; Concentration of Popular Forces [CFP], one; Alfarist Radical Front [FRA], one; and the Democratic People's Movement [MPD], one.

Therefore, the national deputies who will serve 4-year terms in the National Congress are: Sixto Duran Ballen Cesar Acosta, Enrique Ponce, and Cesar Banda of the Social Christian Party; Jorge Zavala and Andres Vallejo of ID; Luis Pallares and Carlos Salas Broos of the Democratic Party; (Roberto von Barreiro) of the Ecuadoran Roldosist Party; Leonardo Escobar of the CFP; Edgar Molino of the FRA; and Jorge Moreno of the MPD.

Reports from Quevedo state that two Los Rios Province political leaders have asked the Supreme Electoral Tribunal to make the necessary preparations and set a date for new elections in that province, because more than 100,000 voters were unable to cast their ballots in Quevedo, Ventanas, Babahoyo, and Urdaneta cantons due to a delay in the installation of the polls caused by the unavailability of electoral materials. The electoral law stipulates that if elections are suspended, the new voting must take place within 15 days of the date of the suspension.

ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL WILL INVESTIGATE ABUSES

PA011748 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Eustorgio Mendoza Cubillo [president of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal] has reported that the Supreme Electoral Tribunal is investigating what it has deemed abuses committed against ballot boxes while people voted, as was their duty.

Mendoza Cubillo confirmed that elections have been called for 12 February in those localities where problems occurred. They are Muisne and Limones in Esmeraldas Province; (El Empalme) and Mocache in Guayas Province; Quevedo, Ventanas, and Babahoyo in Los Rios Province; and El Carmen in Manabi Province.

While explaining the Supreme Electoral Tribunal's procedures, Mendoza Cubillo said that about 20 percent of the voters abstained from voting in 1978 and 1980. He believes this figure will be repeated in 1984, but added: we can do nothing about this.

FOREIGN TRADE DIRECTOR LEAVES FOR BRAZIL

PY020215 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 31 Jan 84 p 5

[Excerpt] Foreign Trade Director General Jorge Sienra traveled to Brazil yesterday. He is due to meet the director of the Brazilian Foreign Trade Deaprtment to discuss the details of the bilateral trade agreements that will be signed by President Joao Figueiredo and Gregorio Alvarez during the Uruguayan president's visit to Brazil in February.

NEW ARMY CHIEF ARANCO'S INSTALLATION SPEECH

PY011625 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1425 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Speech by Lieutenant General Pedro J. Aranco at the ceremony on his installation as the new Uruguayan Army commander in chief at Army headquarters in Montevideo -- live]

[Text] With the humility and simplicity of a soldier, I today assume the post of commander in chief to which I have been honorably appointed by the Army and the government. Upon assuming this post, I note that, although this is necessarily a short mission in terms of time, I will take on fully, at a particularly difficult period for the country, the duties and responsibilities that are incumbent upon the chief of the Army.

Throughout 4 decades of a military career, I have witnessed transformations in an Army that had different roles and characteristics at the time when I joined it. Those roles and characteristics were traditionally military ones that have now been expanded to make the Army the zealous guardian of the longed-for national development. Throughout all the stages of transformation, the Army has demonstrated, particularly at difficult moments, its strong unity in pursuing its objectives.

This is an opportune time to reiterate the need for unity in the Armed Forces, for adherence to the principle of professionalism at all levels and ranks. The depoliticalization of the Armed Forces must be total and definitive. They must not embrace the political philosophy of any party, but must set their line of thought on the lofty moral values that have contributed to shaping Uruguayan nationhood. These values are patriotism, austerity, unselfishness, generosity in serving the nation, honesty, self-denial, and firm character.

It should also be clear that the Armed Forces are to give now and in the future permanent guidance through COSENA [National Security Council] on all questions concerning the nation's security and sovereignty. This does not mean, however, that the Armed Forces want to maintain a national preeminence that is nettlesome, but that they never sought, never wanted, and never wished to exercise in a context of normal national development. It does mean, on the other hand, that armies are organizations to serve peace, not simply to wage wars, because they are institutions that are to serve the nation at all times, guaranteeing its existence, its future, its identity, as well as its well-being and development.

The ceremony that gathers us here today is of a military nature. Therefore, my words are addressed to the Army and to the Armed Forces. The importance of the moment that the country is experiencing makes it mandatory, however, that the commander address other questions. In 1973 the Armed Forces took the stage of national political affairs, and did so legitimally in support of a constitutional president in order to fill a power vacuum which had allowed the nation to run adrift in a sea of disorder, violence, demagoguery, and misgovernment.

It was at no time a mobilization of force in opposition to democracy. On the contrary, it was in defense of democracy that the constitutional president was later replaced, when he tried to bypass the traditional political parties and the ballot as forms of expression of the people's sovereignty.

It was in defense of democracy that a plebiscite was called in 1980, and its outcome was respected. It was in defense of democracy that intra-party elections were called in 1982 with an established timetable known by the people, and the outcome of these elections were again respected.

And in defense of democracy the Armed Forces will not allow the virulent left to return to the political arena by resorting to tactics which our people have rejected forever. Therefore, we emphasize that the Uruguayan Armed Forces do not need advice from anyone on how to defend democracy. The upcoming return to the full functioning of democratic institutions has thus not been imposed by anyone, but has rather been the genuine and constant decision of the Armed Forces themselves.

We believe that it is now suitable to refer particularly to the recent conduct of the political leaderships. In their repeated attempts to reach an agreement on the constitutional terms which would make a political solution possible, the Armed Forces found and are still finding that those leaderships have been captivated by well-publicized principles before learning the true point of view of the Armed Forces. Later, some of the political leaders caused, or expressed their satisfaction over, the emergence of various de facto organizations which called forth, in a planned way and by the application of foreign methods, gradually increasing violence, while at the same time they were singing false slogans of freedom and democracy.

When the citizens were summoned to the 27 November ceremony at the Obelisk, the expectations of the people were stirred up. They believed in good faith that the stated motivations were sincere, but to their surprise they found themselves facing the Broad Front leaderhip and street violence, which even included vilification and attacks on the Artigas Mausoleum, the symbol and essence of our fatherland.

The consequences of the deterioration stemming from the sharp world recession in the past few years are being used to embitter men, society, and the business sector in Uruguay, despite the fact that Uruguay, in comparison with countries of similar possibilities, is doing relatively better at overcoming those consequences. At the same time, enemies are trying to weaken the capacity of the country, taking advantage of every possibility to obstruct economic recovery, the first signs of which can now be clearly seen. Under such circumstances it is a tempting bit of demagoguery to blame the government and to create a false opposition between the people and the Armed Forces as a first step toward a takeover of power by communism in cooperation with the Broad Front. This relationship between events and circumstances is nothing unusual in the world. It is occurring in practically every country, whether they are governed by constitutional regimes or not.

Although we are observing a clear radicalization in some political leaders in relation to what I said earlier, we view with great hope -- in the face of the serious events taking place -- a positive reaction and spirit of moderation.

We trust that the Uruguayan people, by staying in line with this political conduct and by using their ability to make judgments, will prevent the takeover of the traditional parties by extremism and by leaders who restrict or supress the opinion of people who are not willing to tolerate the violation of the basic values of nationality.

We trust that producers and industrialists, together with the other active forces of the nation, will use all their efforts to overcome this crisis, thus depriving of their arguments those who would socialize the means of production and convert the people into slaves of a totalitarian system.

We trust that the workers will unite in defense of the sources of work in order to prevent politically inspired strikes and stoppages affecting their salaries and obstructing government efforts to lower unemployment and to increase real pay.

With the greatest love for the fatherland, for the sake of which we must eliminate all passions, we reiterate in this ceremony the call made by the president and the Armed Forces on other occasions, calling for a national conciliation, but a conciliation in peace and within the law. This is the only framework under which the political solution that the country needs and is seeking can be designed and implemented.

Therefore, we must all join our efforts so that this political solution established from the start of this process -- because the Armed Forces never had and never will have ambitions of power for the sake of power alone -- will create the society we Uruguayans want, a society in which the ideal of a fatherland and the spirit of solidarity become the pillar on which the efforts, potential and capacity of the community to fulfill the great national objectives must rest.

We all know that there are problems, many problems, and we admit it. But at the same time it should be recognized that efforts have been made and continue to be made to overcome them. Only by overcoming disagreements, by overcoming the inhibitions resulting from having cooperated with or opposing the government, discarding destructive desires for revenge, and by clearly determining what is obviously fundamental, and only by struggling together will we be able to build a better future for our country.

In this regard, the representatives of the government, the Armed Forces, and the political leaderships must jointly and immediately implement, without spectacular announcements, the means for a broad agreement, with greatness and sacrifice, so that without forgetting the genuine desires of the people, it will lead to a definitive and unquestionable establishment of a real state of law. This national feeling is the light that must guide our conduct to understand our past, which must not be repeated so that we can make a commitment with the present and eagerly build the future of the fatherland. This is the time for greatness and patriotism, the time for unity, for faith and prudence; it is the time for understanding and firmness.

We firmly proclaim that the Armed Forces will always favor the reunification of Uruguayans within a framework of respect for the law and peaceful coexistence. And we do so because respect for law, life, and human rights, as well as the defense of democracy, constitute the philosophical fountainhead of the Armed Forces' actions in which Uruguayans can take pride, because they have earned for Uruguay credentials which few countries in the world can exhibit.

It should be clearly understood that there are no Uruguayans in exile, as is claimed by sectors interested in distorting the truth. There are citizens who have left the country only because they decided to do so, and they can return whenever they wish in order to work in the country and for the country. And there are those who have fled from justice, and they can also return whenever they wish, the only condition being that they will be brought to court to face the charges pending against them.

We just as firmly state that the Armed Forces will be inflexible and unyielding in their opposition to any form of disorder, violence, and disruption. Therefore, we emphatically reject any action intended to pressure, confuse, divide, and claim false intentions, in an attempt to bring the executive branch and the Armed Forces into confrontation with the other sectors of society. In defense of these objectives, we will remain firmly united within the military institutions, which embody and symbolize the unity of all Uruguayans. This is so because we are all part of the people whom we must serve. Based on the military principles of honor, discipline, and fellowship, we will overcome these restive and difficult times that we are experiencing. And we will not allow ourselves to be influenced by disguised forms of pressure aimed at diverting us from our current mission, namely, to assure the country a full and genuine democratic institutionalization.

Therefore, as zealous guardian of the Armed Forces' dignity, we collectively and individually reaffirm the commitment to defend the nation's right to a destiny of social order, full development, and republican peace. We pledge ourselves to carry out honorably the task which we began in 1973 by transferring the government to citizens who will guarantee with patriotic devotion the defense of democratic and republican principles.

Finally, as members of an Army which must be preserved -- just as the nation must be preserved -- and whose destiny is identical with the destiny of the people, we stand up to renew our oath that we will fulfill our mission without disappointing the people. Thank you very much.

JOURNALISTS DEMAND LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS

PY020144 Paris AFP in Spanish 1127 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Montevideo, 1 Feb (AFP) -- Journalists of Uruguayan newspapers and radio and television stations are demanding that all measures restricting freedom of the press and of speech be lifted immediately, and they are also demanding respect for professional dignity.

In a communique to be released during a demonstration on Friday afternoon, the journalists are also demanding that all sectors of the media that have been closed during the past 11 years be reopened and that the ban on some of them be lifted. The rally, which will be held at the Cagancha Plaza by the liberty statue, is to voice the Uruguayan journalists' protest over the increasing restrictions on freedom of the press.

The document points out that any attack on freedom of the press and of expression entails an attack on those who exercise journalism; therefore, they demand respect for professional dignity, access to all sources, and not being sentenced to become mere propagandists for an official line.

They also recalled that under the military regime, under which Uruguay has lived for the past 11 years, newspapers have been closed, journalists have been proscribed and imprisoned, radio programs have been suspended, journalism enterprises have been forced to let several colleagues go, and a system of censorship on weeklies that led to the confiscation of all the issues of some of them has been implemented.

LEADERS ARRIVING FOR LUSINCHI INAUGURATION

Jorge Blanco, Daniel Ortega

PA020338 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Upon arriving at the Simon Bolivar International Airport in Maiguetia, Dominican Republic President Jorge Blanco said that President Jaime Lusinchi's inauguration confirms that in elections our peoples choose their own representatives. Salvador Jorge Blanco was met at the airport by Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins. The Dominican president also said that Jaime Lusinchi's election reaffirms Venezuela's democratic process.

Meanwhile, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, said on his arrival in Caracas that the biggest enemy of the planned elections in Nicaragua is U.S. policy. Ortega added that U.S. policy is a constant impediment to every effort to institutionalize democracy undertaken by the Nicaraguan revolution.

Daniel Ortega, who arrived in Venezuela to attend Dr Jaime Lusinchi's inauguration, also said that the date for the elections in Nicaragua will be announced on 21 February. He explained that there are several types of elections being considered, including direct elections, indirect elections, constituent elections, and presidential elections. On the Central American situation, Ortega said that this is a problem for the entire region.

Alfonsin Speaks

PA020352 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Argentine President Raul Alfonsin has said that democracy in Latin America must be achieved through the efforts of all of the continent's democratic countries.

The Argentine leader spoke in Caracas on his arrival for Jaime Lusinchi's inaugural ceremony. He also pointed out that his country fully supports the Contadora Group's efforts.

In conclusion, Raul Alfonsin said that his government is working with honesty and justice to unify the Argentine people.

Ecuador's Rodrigo Borja

PA020436 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Rodrigo Borja, Democratic Left presidential candidate, traveled to the Venezuelan capital today to participate in the inaugural events for that country's president-elect, Jaime Lusinchi. During his stay in Caracas, Borja Cevallos will meet with the presidents of Colombia, the Dominican Republic, and Costa Rica, as well as with leaders of the International Social Democracy Movement.

Jaime Lusinchi will be sworn in as Venezuela's president on Thursday in a special ceremony attended by delegations from some 80 countries, including 12 Latin American heads of state, vice presidents, and foreign minister. Borja, who led in last Sunday's elections in Ecuador, will return to Quito next Friday.

Betancur on Relations

PA020431 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Today in Caracas, President Belisario Betancur expressed his confidence that Colombia and Venezuela will reach an agreement, because more issues unite the countries than divide them.

Upon arriving in Caracas to attend President-elect Jaime Lusinchi's inauguration, President Betancur spoke to the news media on the Contadora Group's efforts and Venezuela's role, the progress made in the search for peace in Central America, and the Colombian Armed Forces' professional attitude. Regarding the marine and submarine problem, President Betancur said that he is confident that an agreement will be reached.

Meanwhile, in Bogota, Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo today said that the Colombian Government will be cautious and prudent in resuming talks with Venezuela about the marine and submarine problem.

He said this a few minutes after assuming the position of designated minister for the third time this year; he assumes this position while President Betancur is in Caracas attending President-elect Jaime Lusinchi's inauguration.

Lloreda Caicedo said he has had the opportunity to speak with internationalist counselors for the new Venezuelan Government, and that they hold favorable attitudes.

Referring to the possibility that talks on the marine and submarine problem will be resumed, Lloreda Caicedo said that once the new government is inaugurated, several alternatives will be examined. The new government, he concluded, seems to have a favorable, positive attitude, and we will discuss the necessary conditions for establishing a fruitful dialogue.

MOSCOW PAPER INTERVIEWS CONGRESS PRESIDENT MORA

For reportage on an interview given to the Moscow Russian-language daily IZVESTIYA by Reynaldo Leandro Mora, president of the National Congress, including his comments on the regional situation and the new Venezuelan Government's efforts to expand bilateral relations with the Soviet Union, see the Latin America and Caribbean section of the 1 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

FOREIGN SECRETARY SEPULVEDA TO VISIT FRG, FRANCE

FL012000 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1900 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 1 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- The Foreign Secretariat announced here today that Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor will make official visits to the FRG and France from 13 to 16 March.

The communique added that these visits are in response to invitations extended to the foreign secretary by the German and French Governments.

During his stay in Bonn on 13 and 14 March, Secretary Sepulveda Amor will hold a work meeting with his counterpart, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, and hold talks with top German Government officials.

On 15 and 16 March, the Mexican secretary will meet in Paris with External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson and top French Government officials.

The communique ended by stating that the secretary's trip is in line with the interest of the government of Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado to consolidate relations with countries which, because of their prominent international role, maintain important ties with Mexico.

DECREASED IMPORTS FROM U.S. IN 1983 NOTED

FL010034 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2130 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Mexico City, 31 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- According to reports of the Bank of Mexico and the U.S. Department of Commerce, in 1983 Mexico imported $10 billion fewer goods and services from the United States. It was noted that this reduction was a consequence of the strength the dollar acquired in relation to the world's main foreign currencies. This increased strength caused a growing deficit in the U.S. balance of trade, which in 1983 was 90.7 percent greater than in 1982.

The increased value of the dollar in relation to the main international currencies made U.S. exports noncompetitive because of their high cost, the reports indicates.

It is estimated that the United States exported $10 billion fewer goods and services to Mexico in 1983. This decrease caused U.S. unemployment to go up by 300,000. On the other hand, the Mexican reduction in imports helped create a surplus in the Mexican balance of trade.

NAVY TO INTENSIFY TERRITORIAL WATERS PROTECTION

FL011750 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1505 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 1 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Admiral Miguel Angel Gomez Ortega has stated that the Mexican Navy will intensify its battle against the looting of natural resources in its territorial waters.

He explained that this battle, which consists of increasing the number of Mexican high seas fishing boats, has had good results in the Gulf of Campeche.

The admiral stated that in order to protect the 200-mile territorial water limit, the Mexican Navy has 102 operational units, 6 ships (equipped with helicopters), and 2 torpedo launchers. He supplied this information during a press conference with a group of journalists made up of 20 women and 1 man.

FOREIGN MINISTER SENDS PROTEST NOTE TO U.S.

PA020316 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 1 Feb 84 pp 32, 24

[Article by Euclides M. Corro R.]

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega Duran has sent a diplomatic note to U.S. Ambassador Everett Briggs that expresses his concern about the activities of the Panama Canal Commission's police corps.

Ortega Duran noted that this police corps violates the letter of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

It is well known that the police corps, led by Fred Cotton, chief of general services, has become a kind of paramilitary corps that intends to replace the extinct "Canal Zone Police."

The foreign minister's note, which expresses extraordinary patriotic courage, was delivered to Ambassador Briggs himself, thus lodging the protest at the diplomatic level.

Even though the foreign minister's note does not mention specifics, it was surely a reaction to the incident that took place last Monday involving two Panamanian members of the Panama Canal Board of Directors.

Other cases also exist where Panamanians working for the Panama Canal Commission have been searched by this "police corps."

A reaction to the foreign minister's note to put an end to this police corps' functions is expected within the next few hours from the Panama Canal Commission administrator and deputy administrator.

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES KISSINGER REPORT

PA010443 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega Duran has said that the Kissinger report does not contradict the Contadora Group's actions.

[Begin recording] [Ortega] We insist that the most valid option at this time is the negotiated option, which is represented by the Contadora Group. The Kissinger report does not contradict itself, nor does it contradict the Contadora Group's aspirations. We feel that in this regard there should be a greater implementation of any type of program, and I reiterate that the Contadora Group aspires to have countries accelerate their cooperative mechanisms at this time, so that other aspects can be established that will challenge [as heard] these cooperative mechanisms. Everything that might mean a contribution to our countries' development will be welcomed by the Contadora process.

[Unidentified reporter] How do you think the presence of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz will influence the Venezuelan president's inauguration, since all the conditions will exist for a presidential minisummit?

[Ortega] I think that dialogue should exist at all levels. Not long ago a Latin American conference was held in Quito that was a reaffirmation of hemispheric unity. If U.S. Secretary of State Shultz participated, it would show that the political processes underway in Latin America are considered important, and that President Ricardo de la Espriella's presence, as well as the presence of [Argentine] President Raul Alfonsin and other presidents of the area, are also considered important. [end recording]

CONTADORA GROUP WORK COMMISSIONS INSTALLED

PA011958 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 1 Feb 84 pp 1 A, 8 A

[Report by Roberto Rolando Rodriguez]

[Text] The work commissions for security, politics, and economic and social affairs, which will draft the studies, legal projects, and recommendations and proposals for verifying and controlling compliance with the measures adopted, were officially installed yesterday afternoon at a downtown hotel in this capital.

After a delay of over 5 hours, the commissions began their sessions in an earnest effort to achieve peace in Central America through negotiations and within the framework of the Contadora Group, which is made up of Panama, Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela.

Prior to the installation by Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera, of his colleagues Ricardo Valero, of Mexico, Francisco Paparoni, of Venezuela, and Laura Ochoa de Ardila, of Colombia, the group met to outline the procedures for the installation of the three work commissions.

A brief press bulletin from the Foreign Ministry noted that these commissions are made up of representatives of the Central American countries and the Contadora Group, in compliance with commitments assumed in the document known as "Norms for the Execution of the Commitments Assumed in the Document of Objectives."

These studies, legal projects, and recommendations -- according to the document approved at the last joint meeting, held in January 1984 -- will be presented at the next meeting of the nine foreign ministers, no later than 30 April 1984, but the deadline for presenting their work calendar is 29 February.

The commissions will work today, it was revealed by reliable sources.

The following is the list of representatives by country:

Political Commission

Costa Rica: Rafel Villegas Antillon, representative; Alberto Canas Escalante, Patricia Duran de Jager; El Salvador: Hugo Carrillo Corleto, representative; Ovidio Hernandez; Guatemala: Alfonso Alonso Lima, representative; Honduras: Jorge Ramon Hernandez Alcerro, representative; Carlos Lopez Contreras, Fausto Castillo Suazo; Nicaragua: Jose Leon Talavera, representative; Jorge Lopez, Aldo Diaz Lacayo, Mario Ruiz; Colombia: Julio Londono Paredes, representative; Mexico: Abraham Talavera, representative; Panama: Jose I. Blandon, representative; Oscar Vargas Velarde; Venezuela: Cesar Rondon Lovera, representative.

Security Commission

Costa Rica: Rodolfo Quiroz Gonzalez, representative; Alvar Antillon Salazar, Mario Charpentier; El Salvador: Reynado Gocher, representative; Galileo Torres, Benjamin Gonzalez, Mauricio Rosales; Guatemala: Guillermo Saenz de Tejada, representative; Honduras: Omar Zelaya, representative; Wilfredo Sanchez, Policarpo Callejas Bonilla, Mario Carias Zapata; Nicaragua: Julio Ramos, representative; Augusto Montealegre, Luis Armando Guzman, Rocardo Wheelock, Augusto Zamora; Colombia: Alfonso Castillo, representative; Salomon Rojas, Julio Londono Paredes; Mexico: Claude Heller, representative; Panama: Julio Ow Young, representative; Aristides Valdonedo, Rafael Cedeno;

Venezuela: Ramon Guillen Davila, representative; Oriol Elorza Garrido, Guillermina Da Silva.

Economic and Social Commission

Costa Rica: Manuel Villasuso, representative; Rafael Angel Trejos, Jose de J. Conejo; El Salvador: Leonel Savallos, representative; Victor Manuel Cuellar Ortiz; Guatemala: Fernando Molina Giron, representative; Honduras: Jose Enrique Mejia Ucles, representative; Cecilia Francisca Cabanas, Mario Perdomo; Nicaragua: Orlando Solorzano, representative; Rita Delia Casco, Mauricio Herdocia; Colombia: Jose Antonio Paternostro, representative; Mexico: Ifigenia Martinez, representative; Panama: Gustavo R. Gonzalez J., representative; Venezuela: Victor Rodriquez Cedeno, representative.

COSTA RICA

REINFORCEMENT OF BORDER WITH NICARAGUA DISCUSSED

PA011858 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Reinforcement of the northern border with additional civil guardsmen to prevent further entry of Nicaraguans, who have already been denied entrance to Costa Rican territory, will be determined by the Security Council.

According to Francisco Tacsan, Security Ministry official, the policies to be adopted for the border area will be decided by the Council. He added that at last Monday's meeting the Council called for greater coordination in all these matters. Therefore, if more guardsmen should be required for patrol duty on the northern border, they will be duly dispatched by the Council.

Tacsan said that, on instructions from the Security Council, vigilance over the northern border will be entrusted to the Security Ministry. Thus, it is the duty of Security Ministry officials to watch over the territorial integrity and national sovereignty which, in turn, concerns the principle of neutrality.

As to Eden Pastora's request for the return of the persons turned over to the government, Tacsan explained that it should be submitted to the Security Council for its decision.

President Monge, meanwhile, said the former guerrillas will be treated according to the Havana Convention of 1928. This means that their status will be different than the refugees, in conformity with the democratic and humanistic tradition, of Costa Rica.

The chief of state said he expected the support and understanding of friendly nations. Thus, he reiterated compliance with the agreements adopted by the Security Council in relation to the government's position concerning the Nicaraguans turned over by Commander Eden Pastora in the Boca Tapada Border region.

MRP OUTLINES 'CONSTRUCTION OF NEW REPUBLIC'

PA011451 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 23 Jan 84 p 6B

[Paid advertisement: "History Calls on Us for the Construction of a New Republic"]

[Excerpts] The Peoples Revolutionary Movement (MRP) anounces the following to the Costa Rican people:

1. A very productive process of internal discussions, to which this organization dedicated itself within the framework of its third congress, culminated on 9 January.

2. The fundamental elements of the political program approved, which will regulate the MRP's political conduct, are outlined below:

In the National Area

Costa Rica is experiencing the worst economic crisis in its history. It is so grave that all the economic, social, and political conquests that our people have gradually achieved throughout our history are seriously threatened today.

The task facing all those Costa Ricans who want a future for their children with greater justice and freedom consists of reversing the current situation so that the crisis can be overcome on behalf of the interests of the great majorities and so that the democratic rights achieved to date can be substantially improved and exercised actively and effectively by the people, not only in the political area, but in the economic and social areas as well.

A Broad Social Alliance

The structuring of a broad social alliance is an urgent task at a time when it is evident that the minority sectors, which are politically the most conservative and retrogressive but economically the most powerful, are pressing for the implementation of an economic plan that will exclude and sacrifice the salaried and humblest sectors as well as the middle sectors -- which is to say, the immense majority of the people -- while generating a speedy process of concentrating wealth in their hands.

A Political Alternative

In order for this social alliance to have a true potential to become a force for historic transformation, it is also essential to structure a political alliance that brings together, represents, and guides the Costa Rican people in their struggle for the construction of a better homeland.

The MRP will dedicate itself with all its energy and determination to constructing that political alternative for the Costa Rican people. We realize that it will not result from the individual efforts of any one organization. It is necessary to eliminate every expression of prejudice, dogma, sectarianism, and hegemonism so that, aware of the need for profound transformations, the various grougs, organizations, and individuals can rally around a program that will bring to each citizen greater enjoyment of the material and spiritual goods produced by society.

History calls us to the construction of a NEW REPUBLIC [passage in uppercase published in boldface] whose outlines we dared to present in a document so entitled which was released to the public a little more than a year ago.

In the International Arena

Like our ancestors, we understand that our homeland's fate is closely tied to the fate of our Central American brothers. We understand that the first obligation of the democratic, progressive, and revolutionary forces is the resolute and conscientious defense of the principles of nonintervention and respect for the self-determination of the peoples.

Acknowledging the legacies of Bolivar and Marti, we advocate a strengthening of firm Latin American unity, a guarantee for achieving development, as well as justice in the field of international relations.

With regard to the so-called North-South conflict, which pits our peoples aganist the dominating forces in the major developed capitalist countries led by the voracious U.S. financial interests, we advocate the unity of all the peoples and nations struggling against exploitation and dependence and in favor of their self-determination and sovereignty. In this regard, we accept the unconditional support that the forces alien to neocolonialist or imperalist interests may be willing to provide.

With regard to the so-called East-West conflict, which pits the superpowers against each other, we reject the fatalist thesis that our peoples must align themselves with either the United States or the Soviet Union. On the contrary, we uphold a genuine **international policy of nonalignment and independence.**

About the MRP Statute and Directorate

3. Our party's third congress also approved new statutes for the organization, which enable all those Costa Ricans who share our ideology and political line to join. The congress also elected a new Central Directorate that includes Sergio Erick Ardon Ramirez, Jose Fabio Araya Monge, and Luis Fernando Astorga Gatgens as first, second, and third secretaries, respectively. Miguel Marti Volio, Adrian Morera Alvarez, Mario Sancho Barrantes, and Fernando Villalobos Campos were elected members of the Central Directorate.

The MRP, a patriotic, popular, democratic, and revolutionary organization, reasserts to the Costa Rican people its unswerving determination to dedicate itself fully to the struggle for the construction of a new Costa Rica, where sovereignty and freedom, social justice, fraternity, and full democracy can be fully enforced.

In short, it is a matter of calling on the best in our homeland to launch "A NEW NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR A NEW REPUBLIC."

MRP, 17 January 1984,
Responsible Signature: Luis Barrantes Mesen
CED 1-360-227

EL SALVADOR

MILITARY, CIVILIAN OFFICIALS SAID SEEKING COUP

PA011414 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City (AFP) -- Journalist (Frida Modak) yesterday asserted in the newspaper EL DIA that Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena and several high-ranking Salvadoran military officers are promoting the idea of staging a coup in El Salvador. According to the source, the maneuver involves Army Chief of Staff Colonel Adolfo Onecifero Blandon and Defense Minister Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova.

According to the journalist, the promoters of the coup have toured several countries requesting support for this initiative. Blandon headed one of the missions and Chavez Mena the other, the article reports. The report also notes that despite their efforts, the coupists, who through this manuever would be seeking to prevent the elections slated for 25 March in El Salvador, have not yet found the endorsement they seek. According to (Modak), the plotters are trying to prevent the elections and step up the antiguerrilla war against the internal rebellion in El Salvador.

DEATH OF LINDA CANCEL 'DEMONSTRATES' FMLN CONDUCT

PA012312 San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish 1815 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Report issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, in San Salvador on 1 February]

[Text] We hope Linda's death was not in vain. The murder of Linda Candel -- a young American woman who, together with her family, wanted to travel and learn about our peoples -- demonstrates to U.S. citizens the conduct of the FMLN extremists.

The pain and sorrow that has shaken Salvadoran homes for more than 5 years has now affected a typical young U.S. family. Hopefully, the bullet that perforated Linda Candel's chest -- a bullet fired by the extremists -- will speak to the hearts and minds of so many Americans who mistakenly believe that a group of young idealists here are fighting, like Robin Hood, against a dictatorship in El Salvador.

The sacrifice of Linda Cancel's life will not be in vain, God willing. May her death make U.S. citizens finally realize that unscrupulous criminals and murderers are marauding in the Salvadoran mountains. May they learn that the FMLN extremists daily kill and destroy sons of people heroically struggling for peace and democracy, just as they killed this young wife and mother who enjoyed peace and democracy in her own country.

PROFESSIONALS ISSUE HUMAN RIGHTS DEMANDS

PA020305 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 31 Jan 84 p 36

[Paid advertisement placed by the Independent Movement of Salvadoran Professionals, MIPTES]

[Text] In view of the continuous violation of the political liberties and human rights of the Salvadoran people, MIPTES declares:

For several decades, El Salvador has experienced constant violations of political liberties and human rights, including the most basic right, the right to life itself. This phenomenon -- which is directed against human life -- has intensified in recent years, reaching levels that have forced many democratic nations and international forums to express their condemnation and repudiation of those responsible for the situation, especially those in the government. These persistent violations have created doubts about the sincerity and power of the people who have the authority to end the situation. This is proven by the continuous campaign against the University of El Salvador; the recent arrest of 14 union members of the FSR [Revolutionary Trade Union Federation], in a clear violation of the freedom to gather, using the state of siege to institutionalize these violations; and the constant cases of missing persons, whose whereabouts remain unknown. All this becomes more alarming by the fact that not even U.S. pressure has stopped these practices and actions, which have become the most flagrant violations of human rights. An example of this is the death squads, which are firmly embedded in the upper levels of Salvadoran society.

In view of this situation, and in defense of the Salvadoran peoples' inalienable rights and liberties, MIPTES demands from the appropriate authorities:

1. The immediate restoration of political liberties and respect for human rights, and the abrogation of the decrees and practices that violate them.

2. The exposure and cessation of the death squads, and consequently, the punishment of their leaders.

3. The immediate release of the FSR union members and other political prisoners or missing persons.

4. An end to the campaign against the University of El Salvador, and against the Salvadoran people in general.

5. A search for a true political solution to the conflict, thereby ending our dramatic situation.

VENCEREMOS SCORES SHULTZ VISIT, ELECTIONS

PA010308 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] On this Tuesday, amid very tight security, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Langhorne Motley, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, and Richard Stone, U.S. special ambassador for Central America, arrived in our homeland. Isn't it funny that more U.S. officials have visited El Salvador during these past 3 years than in the past 50? Could it be that U.S. imperialism is carrying out a last-minute attempt to save the dictatorship and its puppet army from total disaster?

The bad part of it is that imperialism has tasted about everything in El Salvador, and nothing it can do will improve the situation. George Shultz comes to El Salvador at an extremely critical time for the dictatorship, and at a time when the U.S. program for El Salvador is crumbling. All those dollars, certifications, bombs, rifles, advisers, and all those tactics, maneuvers, and military plans have not served their purpose. Everything has failed, and the people up in arms are more than ever at the doors of a popular triumph.

Shultz is coming to El Salvador to try and mend a disastrous national situation that does not seem to offer much of a future for [words indistinct] the only real U.S. plan for our homeland -- intervention. Shultz has come to El Salvador at a time when two important matters are affecting the situation. First, there is an Army that is defeated, divided, corrupt, and near total disaster. The extremely expensive operations involving more than 5,000 men failed. They then said that the problem was [former Defense Minister] General Garcia, because he did not seem to understand the advice of the Yankee advisers, so they replaced Garcia. In his place they appointed General Vides Casanova, who is a faithful dog and well versed in U.S. tactics. They multiplied their military aid and implemented the Vietnam-style CONARA [National Commission for Reconstruction of Affected Areas] plan with the Cazadores battalions, small operations [words indistinct] in various areas of the country. However, the CONARA plan did not work because of corruption, the low morale among the soldiers, the strong blows delivered by the FMLN, and it all ended in a tremendous failure.

However, the Yankees persisted. They then appointed Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, the known criminal who has demonstrated a lack of military ability, to lead the eastern command in the most troublesome area in the country. However, Monterrosa, with all his available resources, was not able to stop the FMLN from dislodging one of the three most important counterinsurgency military bases on Cacahuatique Volcano. Monterrosa was not able to stop the FMLN from destroying the strategic Cuscatlan Bridge, and today Monterrosa's situation has reached the point where he has announced that he is going to make another attempt with more men and equipment and use General Garcia's tactics, because the small battalion tactics did not produce the expected results.

Viewed from this angle, probably the biggest problem that the Army has is facing the problem of its own growth. According to the figures supplied by the dictatorship, the Army has suffered approximately 18,000 casualties, and the need to grow is forcing them into a brutal and forceful recruiting process and the below-standard military training of thousands of workers and peasants, who see in their commanders the enemies of their classes. In practice this means that these troops will not prove efficient in the face of the experienced revolutionary army.

The dictatorship's army is also divided, full of conspiracy and stealing, surrounded with rumors of coups d'etat and full of officers who are members of the death squads. This has the United States facing such a predicament that it can't even get the [word indistinct] to supply at least five scapegoats who would help Reagan get the military aid he needs so badly. Shultz has come here to see how he can put some order into this Army.

The second important matter is the public fight among thugs [chuchos]. This is what the electoral farce has turned into. For the Gringos the electoral farce is the axis for its political maneuver for El Salvador. The Gringos need [former President Napoleon] Duarte to win the elections. Duarte would mean the guarantee and the platform that would allow the Yankees to justify their intervention. Imperialism gains nothing from arming and advising the Army if it cannot rebuild the political image of the genocidal regime. George Shultz has come to El Salvador to make the sad presidential candidates understand that Duarte is the Yankee candidate, and that Duarte must win. Anyway, Duarte must win because he is the life insurance for all the politicians in this country, and according to the Gringos he is the life insurance of the oligarchy.

Shultz is not overlooking anything. He has come to El Salvador to convince a murderer like [National Republican Alliance President Roberto] D'Aubuisson that a crazy man like Duarte is his life insurance, and that the generals must stop this division and conspiracy and create another army because the one they have has already crumbled.

Worst of all is that this unfortunate secretary of state does not seem to understand that elections are not a solution, that five scapegoats will not solve the problem of the violation of human rights, and that another army, forcefully recruited, will not prevent the dictatorship's military defeat.

George Shultz does not seem to accept that no one and nothing can stop the heroic Salvadoran people, who are up in arms in their march toward victory. Shultz' mission would be quite different if the Gringos were to accept that we, the Salvadorans, should be free; that we should have an independent, sovereign, and democratic homeland; and that based on respect and nonintervention, they could establish relations that would be worthy of the two countries.

Farabundo Marti Comments

PA012004 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Another high-ranking official of the Yankee government has found it necessary to come to El Salvador to reassure the traitorous puppets that they will continue receiving all the support they need to continue waging war on our people.

George Shultz, secretary of state of the Reagan administration, has come to El Salvador to discuss an alleged democracy, liberty, respect for human rights, and social progress for our people. To do this, they came out with a new declaration signed jointly with the puppet regime.

The declaration of nothing but a commitment by the local traitors to comply with a military pact prepared and promoted by the Yankee in Central America. The Yankees speak of elections in our country as a means of solving the problems of the Salvadoran people,but they are at the same time prepared to send thousands of U.S. soldiers to occupy our fatherland and implement other political and military maneuvers as alternatives to what is already being seen as foiled elections farce. Parallel activities are part of the ever-present alternatives of the Yankees, who are trying in vain to stop the liberation struggle of our working people.

We wonder: What do the political parties think now that it has been revealed that there was a coupist plan involving Eugenio Vides Casanova, the defense minister himself?

The elections that have been proposed as a solution appear as a maneuver in which not even the Gringos trust. Whatever the facade of the regime that betrays the fatherland, the people are still being massacred with U.S.-made weapons. Ronald Reagan is making a historic mistake by supporting this regime of corrupt people and assassins. Reagan knows very well that continued support for the dictatorship means accompanying it in its defeat.

We have chosen peace, we love liberty, and we want independence, for the fatherland. This is why the people are with us. We will not put down our weapons as long as the people endure terror, crime, and exploitations at the hands of the gang of traitors who cling to power.

VENCEREMOS ALLEGES HONDURAN MILITARY INCURSIONS

PA020357 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Seven Honduran Army helicopters flew over the border with El Salvador in the area of Morazan Department at 0830 on 1 February. This information was provided by the towns of Perquin, Torola, and San Fernando in Northern Morazan Department. It has also been learned that Honduran troops have been stationed on the Honduran-Salvadoran border. Honduran soldiers took up positions on the hill of (Babilonia), in northern Morazan. However, these Honduran positions on our territory were harassed by FMLN forces, forcing the invaders to withdraw. All of these actions by the Honduran Army fall within the framework of U.S. imperialism's aggressive plans. This is also the reason why the Honduran Army is in such a rush to clear the border of Salvadoran refugees.

GUATEMALA

SABOTAGE ACTS OCCUR ON ANNIVERSARY OF TRAGEDY

PA012011 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Several acts of sabotage were staged today, especially in Guatemala City and also in the countryside, to mark the fourth anniversary of the lamentable incident at the Spanish Embassy which claimed 39 lives.

Police reports say that unidentified people staged acts of sabotage by spreading (?nails) and tacks on Roosevelt Road. The same source also reported tht vehicles, especially cars, which are the type of vehicle that transit that road most frequently, had their tires punctured. Buses serving urban and suburban areas, as well as trucks and trailers, also had their tires punctured, causing inconvenience to the drivers.

Guatemalan police authorities place security guards along the entire road after the sabotage took place and combed the area in search of the culprits. However, they did not report whether any arrests were made.

On the fourth anniversary of the bloody incident at the Spanish Embassy, Head of State General Oscar Mejia Victores said that his regime will not accept responsibility for the incident.

Mejia Victores said that the incident took place during another administration and that his regime is not obliged to accept responsibility and be subjected to the resulting consequences.

POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL SHOT TO DEATH

PA012015 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] (Edilberto Gomez), third-in-command of the national police's Technical Investigations Department, was murdered tonight in southern Guatemala City.

The murder occurred on 1st Street between 1st and 2d Avenues in Zone 9. (Gomez) was driving his car when apparently he was attacked from another car or a motorcycle. Shots also wounded a passerby named Pablo Equiricer. He was picked up by municipal firemen who found him wounded and lying some 15 meters from Gomez' car.

FAR COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCES NEW CAMPAIGN

PA010427 Guatemala City DIARIO EL GRAFICO in Spanish 31 Jan 84 p 3

[Text] The clandestine Rebel Armed Forces, FAR, has issued a communique in Nicaragua announcing the beginning of a large-scale campaign to commemorate the "21st anniversary of the armed struggle against the government."

The communique released to the Nicaraguan news media and international news agencies say says that "the commemorative campaign began last Thursday, when a military helicopter was damaged in La Libertad Municipality, Peten Department."

The FAR communique says that guerrilla acitivities began in 1963, when Lieutenant Luis Augusto Turcios Lima and other young officers took to the mountains in the eastern part of the country after an abortive military coup against the government of General Miguel Ydigoras Fuentes.

FAR, ORPA ACTIONS AGAINST ARMY REPORTED

PA020420 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The guerrilla cause is gaining strength, and it is again reaching the capital itself. Guatemala is a weak instrument of Yankee imperialism. The people of Guatemala are resisting the genocidal troops throughout the country and are making the putrid regime stumble. Not even a coup or a surprise announcement of a farcical democracy resulting from the elections will save these troops. This is what we hear from Guatemala, which has joined the Central American peoples' struggle. There is a fighting Guatemala confronting the old boss of Latin America -- Yankee imperialism.

Many farms in the Santa Rosa and Suchitepeque Departments have been seized by the fighters of ORPA, the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms, which is a member of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, [URNG].

They explained at a meeting of workers and laborers the course of, the objective of, and the need for the Guatemalan revolution.

The regime has ordered the deployment of troops to the areas bordering El Salvador and Honduras. However, Guatemalan Colonel Paredes Najera has denied that the troop movement is linked to a joint operation by the Guatemalan, Honduran, and Salvadoran Armies.

On 12 January, the Rebel Armed Forces, FAR, and a member of the URNG victoriously initiated the political-military campaign called 21 Years of Combative Presence in the Struggle for National Independence and the Liberty of Our People, which is underway throughout Peten Department. FAR's actions in Guatemala include the placement of a mine field, which caused many casualties among the dictatorship's troops. FAR fighters also took the highway between Libertad and El Narajo, paralyzing traffic so as to hold political meetings with the travelers. Finally, FAR forces damaged an Army helicopter as it tried to land.

While the people act, the dictatorship sinks deeper into its own contradictions. A plot to murder General Mejia Victores was revealed by a ranking security official who asked not to be identified. Ten generals and 25 colonels who were forced to retire by Mejia Victores planned the plot and had already contracted an assassin in Miami when the plan was discovered.

[Words indistinct] Mejia Victores, by ORPA urban groups in the capital, Guatemala City.

Long live the revolutionary struggle of the Guatemalan people! Central America will be free, sovereign, and independent! Yankee aggressor, get out of Central America!

HONDURAS

ARMED FORCES CHIEF DISCUSSES JOINT EXERCISES

PA312133 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 31 Jan 84

[News conference granted by General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, commander of the Honduran Armed Forces, in San Esteban on 30 January after observing the start of the operation marking the final phase of the "Big Pine II" exercises; reporters not identified -- recorded]

[Text] [Alvarez] We have started the first phase, which consists of establishing a cordon in order to clean up guerrillas in the zone. The (?paratroopers') mission is to consolidate this area as part of the siege. When the exercise ends, we will be able to evaluate the operation's results.

[Question] General, what is the difference between "Big Pine I," "Big Pine II," and "Grandadera I"?

[Alvarez] It is really the same thing, only the name is different. It is a form of cooperation [words indistinct].

[Question] When will "Granadera I" start?

[Alvarez] A definite date still has not been set. "Granadera I" will possibly start by June.

[Question] Will Guatemalan and Salvadoran soldiers participate in "Granadera I"?

[Alvarez] A formal invitation still has not been extended because there must be authorization by the president.

[Question] But it was announced that President Suazo Cordova has already authorized the exercise.

[Alvarez] He has only authorized the preliminary steps. Then he will be asked for final authorization to carry out the operation.

[Question] General, are the Guatemalan and Salvadoran Governments interested in sending soldiers to be trained in Honduras?

[Alvarez] It seems that they are interested, but a formal invitation has not been extended. As soon as the president approves the entire "Granadera I" operation, invitations will be extended so that these governments can answer if they accept the invitation.

[Question] Where will "Granadera I" take place?

[Alvarez] Well, these exercises will eventually cover the entire country. We have carried out exercises like this in La Mosquitia, Trujillo, Comayagua, here, and several other places, covering terrain of a varied nature, as near as possible to real conditions.

[Question] Is "Big Pine I" about to be completed, General? How do the Honduran and Nicaraguan armies compare to each other?

[Alvarez] [Words indistinct] I can only say that we are better trained to defend our country against any possibility. [passage indistinct]

[Question] We would like you to confirm something for us, General. It has been said that the United States will install a joint base in Honduran territory. Is this true?

[Alvarez] There has been much speculation on this, but nothing specific has been decided because there have not been any formal talks between the U.S. and Honduran Governments. No formal talks have been held, either on the conditions for establishing a joint base in the area, or on something similar. As I have said, all this is pure speculation.

[Question] If this base were permanently installed in Honduras, who would administer it?

[Alvarez] The base would be under Honduran administration.

[Question] Gen Alvarez, what is your opinion on the Nicaraguan elections?

[Alvarez] [Words indistinct] as long as there is no international supervision to guarantee that the elections will be [free, honest, and pluralistic; and if the elections will be handled by Marxists.... [changes thought] As you know, for Marxists, elections are a bourgeois means to attain power. They don't believe in elections, and if they don't believe in elections they will not respect them. That is definite.

[Question] Will the number of U.S. soldiers participating in "Granadera I" be larger than the number that participated in "Big Pine I" and "Big Pine II"?

[Alvarez] We are still completing the classification according to the type of exercise and the forces involved [words indistinct] number of soldiers that will participate in every stage. We haven't yet decided this.

[Words indistinct] Possibly they will be fewer, but I would not want to advance any figures because I am not sure, neither on our behalf nor on behalf of the United States, much less on behalf of the other countries, when and if they decide to participate.

[Question] Will all the materiel being used in "Big Pine II" remain in Honduras, General?

[Alvarez answer indistinct]

[Question] Will U.S. 105-mm artillery pieces remain here?

[Alvarez] This is part of the U.S. cooperation. Those artillery pieces will remain in Honduras. [Words indistinct]

PAZ BARNICA CITED ON OPPOSITION TO BASES

PA011524 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica has discarded the possibility of a foreign military base being installed in Honduras. He has said that the Honduran Government is not in favor of the installation of bases in Central America.

It is worthwhile to recall a statement by Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica in this regard. He said: We live in the 20th century, in a period of decolonization, and I believe we must favor that process. The Honduran Government does not agree with the installation of foreign bases in Central America. This position was established in the Contadora Group negotiations.

Meanwhile, General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, commander of the Armed Forces, has characterized rumors about the installation of a joint U.S.-Honduran military base as speculation. He said: There is nothing specific on that since there have been no formal discussions in this regard between the U.S. Government and ours. As long as the conditions under which a mixed military base or something similar are not established, any talk in this regard is merely speculative. Alvarez noted that if such a base were ever installed, it would be under Honduran jurisdiction, because we must maintain the principle of sovereignty.

TRADE TIES WITH AREA COUNTRIES PLANNED

PA011611 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The Honduran Government is making preparations to establish commercial ties with Belize, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, and Mexico. Work commissions concluded a study for the purpose of signing bilateral agreements with those countries yesterday.

The first negotiations will take place with Belize since authorities from that country have stated their interest in having trade relations with Honduras. It is believed that commerce authorities from that Caribbean nation will arrive in Tegucigalpa in the next few days.

Foreign Trade Deputy Director (Roberto Interiono) has said that, in general terms, the study calls for exporting mainly agricultural products. This official said that the new bilateral trade agreements with Caribbean states, Mexico, and Venezuela are in line with the Honduran policy of promoting trade of nontraditional products.

He said that Belize, in particular, is interested in importing manufactured wood products, textiles, African palm trees, and other products not produced in that country.

The Honduran Government, through the office of the foreign secretary, will inform economic officials of the noted republics about Honduras' decision to initiate formal trade talks, it has been reported.

PRISONER, SHIP EXCHANGE PLANNED WITH NICARAGUA

PA011805 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Edwin Zablah, the Nicaraguan ambassador to Honduras, told HRN Voz de Honduras yesterday that he has personally delivered a note to Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica confirming the exchange of prisoners and several vessels that are currently being held by both Honduras and Nicaragua. His statement implies that Honduran and Nicaraguan prisoners and vessels which are currently being held by both countries will be exchanged.

Ambassador Zablah confirms this information for Voz de Honduras: [Begin Zablah recording] We reaffirm the Nicaraguan Government's desire to exchange the Honduran and Nicaraguan prisoners and vessels currently being held by both countries. We hope the exchange will take place as soon as possible. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA HITS U.S. 'INTERVENTIONIST' POLICY

PA011757 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1531 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Interview with Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, by an unidentified reporter at the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport in Managua -- live]

[Text] [Ortega] We are leaving right now for Caracas, where we will attend Jaime Lusinchi's inauguration. This will give us the chance to call attention once again to the threats of intervention that continue to seriously burden the Central American region, particularly Nicaragua and El Salvador, and to make further efforts on behalf of the peace initiatives that the Contadora Group has been promoting in Central America, which Nicaragua firmly endorses.

[Reporter] What are the major obstacles to Contadora at this point, Commander?

[Ortega] I think the major obstacle continues to be U.S. policy. The Kissinger commission's report seeks to further strengthen that aggressive and interventionist policy in Central America.

It must be noted that the report we have read, prepared by the Kissinger commission, pales before the recommendations that Mr Kissinger has made directly to President Reagan outside the framework of this report. It is a known fact that Mr Kissinger has made recommendations which cite the need for military intervention in Nicaragua, as well as the need not to yield in the face of the Salvadoran revolutionary forces, saying that efforts should be made to eliminate them, thus imposing a situation of force in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

[Reporter] In light of these recommendations by Mr Kissinger and of the new aggressive policy against Nicaragua, how can one view the 1985 elections?

[Ortega] Well, the major problem continues to be that of aggression. The United States and its aggressive and terrorist policy are the main enemies of the election here in Nicaragua.

IZVESTIYA INTERVIEWS INTERIOR MINISTER BORGE

For an article on an interview given to an IZVESTIYA correspondent by Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge, including comments on the government's decrees on holding elections and granting amnesty to exiles, and on U.S. policy toward Nicaragua, see the Latin America & Caribbean section of the 2 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

FSLN CONTROL IN STATE COUNCIL MAINTAINED

PA312239 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Jan 84 pp 1, 10

[Excerpts] The latest government junta decree, which amended Article 16, Chapter III of the Constitution, resulted in the Social Democratic and Communist Parties being admitted to the State Council, but the FSLN maintained absolute control of the State Council.

As a result and according to the latest decree, the Nicaraguan political and social forces in the State Council are distributed as follows.

Marxist-Leninist inclination: FSLN, 6 delegates; AMNLAE [Luisa Amanda Espinoza Nicaraguan Women's Association] 1 member; CST [Sandinist Workers Federation], 3 representatives; ATC [Farm Workers Association], 3 advisers; CDS, [Sandinist Defense Committee], 9 delegates; 19 July Sandinist Youth Movement, 1 member; UNAG [National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen], 2 representatives; Nicaraguan Socialist Party, 1 adviser; Nicaraguan Communist Party, 1 delegate; CAUS [Labor Action and Unity Federation], 2 members; total: 30 representatives.

Under Marxist-Leninist influence: Independent Liberal Party, 1 member; Popular Social Christian Party, 1 delegate; the armed forces, 1 adviser; CNES [National Council of Higher Learning], 1 representative; UPN [Union of Journalists of Nicargua], 1 member; ANDEN [National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers], 1 member; FETSALUD [Federation of Health Workers], 1 delegate; CELADEC [no expansion given], 1 delegate; CONAPRO [Confederation of Nicaraguan Professional Associations], 1 official adviser; total: 10 members.

Democratic tendency: Social Christian Party, one delegate; Social Democratic Party, one adviser; Constitutionalist Liberal Party, one member; Confederation for Unity of Trade Unions, one representative; total: four delegates.

This is an indication of the great FSLN influence during State Council debates: 40 government delegates and 4 democratic members.

COMMUNIST LEADER ON U.S. 'ATTACK' ON REVOLUTION

PA011759 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] With or without an election, the U.S. Administration will continue to attack the revolution, Manual Perez Estrada, leader of the Communist Party of Nicaragua, has said. For Perez Estrada, who is a member of the party's Political Bureau, the opening of the electoral process here in our country seems too complicated because there is too little time to hold an election. If we were in the government, he said, we would postpone the electoral process, Perez Estrada told this station yesterday.

The old leader of the Communists stressed that since this is not in their hands, they want to participate in the entire process, as well as in the 1985 election.

Commenting on the U.S. Government's aggressive plans against our people and the revolution, Perez Estrada indicated that imperialism will not stop harassing and threatening the revolutionary process, with or without an election.

COMMUNISTS APPOINT REPRESENTATIVE TO ASSEMBLY

PA020350 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Communist Party Politburo has appointed Companero Angel Hernandez Cerda as the party's representative to the political parties' national assembly.

Meanwhile, veteran Communist Party leader Manuel Perez Estrada, who is working to organize the workers in Matagalpa, Masaya, Jinotega and Esteli, said that his organization is very interested in participating in the electoral process, which he felt is taking place rather quickly.

PASTORA STATEMENT ON ARDE EXODUS TO COSTA RICA

PA010344 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Nicaragua in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Statement by Commander Eden Pastora, commander of the Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] For more than 3 months we have been promising weapons to the thousands of men who have joined the ARDE ranks, both those who have come walking 10, 15, 20 and even 25 km, and those who have joined deeper in the territory. We have lied to them. We have deceived them because we too have been deceived. Ruben Dario [Nicaraguan poet] used to say that to be sincere is to be strong. Once again we are sincere with our people. Those who claim to be democrats, those who say that they fight against dictatorships and the tyrannies of the right and the left have deceived us. They have not given us weapons. They have not given us what we need: bullets, bullets, and more bullets to kill the Cuban, Soviet, and foreign invaders.

In 9 months of war we have gone from 370 companeros who seized the San Juan River from El Castillo to its mouth to 5,500 armed peasants. We are not the 10,000, the 20,000 or the thousands needed to overthrow the extreme left-wing dictatorship as we overthrew the extreme right-wing Somozist dictatorship only because nefarious, extreme right-wing forces want the Somozist guard which is in northern Nicaragua to reach Managua. They want to return to the past. They want to go against history. They do not realize that revolutions do not return to the past. They do not realize that the peoples do not return to the past. Because of our honorable positions, they are preventing what we obtained from international aid from reaching our peasants in the mountains. Because of our honorable, revolutionary, and Sandinist position that is against both Washington and Moscow's imperialism, they do not want us to be armed. Companeros, that is why today we are going to pass over to sanctuaries in Costa Rica more than 3,000 peasants who over the past 3 months have come from deep in the territory looking for weapons.

Today, we will go to Costa Rica, to the refuge that the fraternal Costa Rican people will give us. After 3 months, we, as ARDE leaders, feel it would be irresponsible to keep these peasants any longer in a war zone without being able to have them defend themselves or being able to defend them.

The democrats of the world think that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency is helping us, when the truth is that we have waged the war with just $400,000 a month. Of this, $100,000 is invested in political activities and just $300,000 is invested in military activities. How have 5,500 armed men and 5,000 unarmed men been able to wage a liberation war along the San Juan River and deeper in the territory? One way: With the spirit of Sandinists, patriots, revolutionaries, democrats, and peasants. We will continue to fight with this spirit, because it is the most powerful weapon that we Nicaraguans have.

Our war is a national one. No matter how much the CIA wants to reduce us to a southern front, we are going to fight all over Nicaragua because there is a struggle for freedom and democracy throughout Nicaragua. In the north, the military chiefs do not cross the border. We are waging the war in Nueva Guinea, (El Almen), and Punta Gorda. We are threatening Rio Escondido. We are surrounding Bluefields. We are threatening the Rama paved road. We are fighting all along the west bank of Lake Nicaragua. We are fighting in Rio Grande and in Prizapolka. We are going to go deeper. Even if the Gringos and the KGB do not want this, even if the Cubans do not like it, we are going to reach Managua.

To conclude, on behalf of the ARDE, I want to thank you peasants for the faith, confidence, and discipline that you have shown with regard to ARDE orders. If today we tell you peasants to seek refuge temporarily in Costa Rica, tomorrow when the weapons come we will tell you, companero peasants, come back because the liberation rifle, the revolutionary rifle, the democratic rifle is here; and on that day all of us will once again go to our mountains to fight for the freedom of our children and women.

Commentary by FSDC

PA310457 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Commentary written and read by Jose Davila, representative of the Christian Democratic Solidarity Front, FSDC, and a member of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Directorate]

[Excerpts] We have been forced to send to refugee camps in the sister nation of Costa Rica 1,000 of our unarmed fighters, 1,000 members of our ARDE who have been waiting for a rifle to rescue the revolution from the traitorous directorate. We are seeing a great historic and significant event. We are seeing an event that shows the popular support for the ARDE.

For months, thousands of fighters, thousands of peasants, have been waiting for us to provide them with weapons to fight for freedom. However, the popular support has exceeded our resources. Our people's support for the ARDE has been greater than our possibilities and our ability to give them what they need for the struggle. We are not worried about having sent 1,000 of our fighters to Costa Rica. Instead, we are pleased because it shows the popular support that we have, our people's and peasants' confidence in the ARDE leaders and the objectives sought.

ARDE's struggle continues. Its morale today is higher than ever. ARDE's struggle is irreversible due to its moral and revolutionary legitimacy. ARDE's struggle is irreversible because it is victorious. History is with us. The people are with us. The fact that we had to send 1,000 fighters to the refugee camps in Costa Rica means that the people are with us. Other organizations that have are individuals who want a return to the past have the support of specific forces, but they do not advance. The people do not support them. The people support the real revolution and are against the past and the present. They want ARDE's revolution.

Nicaraguan people, it doesn't matter that today we had to hand over 1,000 of your companeros to the Costa Rican refugee camps. Those problems don't matter. The manipulation of this action by the totalitarian directorate doesn't matter. The sinister forces that want to block this democratic revolution don't matter. The CIA doesn't matter. The FSLN national directorate doesn't matter. The National Guard that would like to return to Nicaragua doesn't matter. No, that doesn't matter, Nicaraguan people. The only thing that matters to us is that we have your support.

ARDE REPORTS ON CLASHES WITH SANDINISTS

PA261546 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 24 Jan 84

[War Bulletin No 156 released by the General Command of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance's Armed Forces "in the mountains of Nicaragua" on 24 January]

[Text] The General Command of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, informs the people of Nicaragua and other democratic peoples of the world that:

1. At 0930 on 13 January 1984, the Barba III Column of the Concepcion Aviles Platoon, headed by Companero Culebra, clashed for 30 minutes with a platoon of the occupation army at the place known as El Silencio, jurisdiction of San Miguelito, 17 km west of Morrillo, inflicting 10 casualties while suffering none. After the clash our forces retreated into the mountains.

2. At 0700 on 14 January, in the same location of El Silencio, the same patrol headed by Companero Culebra ambushed another patrol of the so-called Sandinist army. On this occasion, our forces inflicted 4 casualties while suffering none. After a 2-hour clash, our forces made a strategic retreat into the mountains.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

BRIEFS

COOPERATION AGREEMENT -- Nicaragua and Czechoslovakia signed a cooperation agreement for about $2.5 million on 27 January. This sum will be used to achieve the goals set for 1984 in the textile and metal-mechanical industries, among others, and will also include donations of milk and medicine. [Summary] [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 28 Jan 84 PA]

RODRIGUEZ INTERVIEWED BY BULGARIAN WEEKLY

AU011915 Sofia BTA in English 1849 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Sofia, Feb 1 (BTA) -- No army of the United States will ever be able to dominate our country, says Mr Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party and deputy chairman of the State and of the Ministerial Council of Cuba. In an interview for the "AROUND THE WORLD" weekly for international policy, publication of the BULGARIAN TELEGRAPH AGENCY, the Cuban guest dwells on the successes Cuba has achieved in her socio-economic development and also on the threat the United States poses to Cuba as well as to other peoples in Central America.

Mr Carlos Rafael Rodriguez stresses that the tension caused by the administration of President Reagan is the gravest Cuba has ever been subjected to. That is why Cuba is taking decisive measures to strengthen her defence. Even if they succeed in occupying part of our territory or even the whole country, the aggressors will have to fight against an organized resistance, against the entire people, says Mr Rodriguez. "They shall never succeed in gaining a foothold there and will be forced to withdraw, suffering thousands of victims. And all this makes a military aggression impossible, because the United States would not be able to endure another Vietnam."

The Cuban leader said that the situation in Central America continues to be dangerous in spite of the efforts of the Contadora Group, which enjoys the support of almost all Latin American countries. In spite of the fact that the need for negotiations in Central America was expressed not only by the socialist countries, but by a number of U.S.A. allies as well, President Reagan is obstinately seeking to impose his imperialist will, resorting to military pressure and military threat, says Mr Carlos Rafael Rodriguez.

DELEGATION TO ATTEND LUSINCHI INAUGURATION

FL020212 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers, arrived in Caracas at the head of the delegation that will attend the presidential inauguration of Social Democrat Jaime Lusinchi. The delegation includes Jorge Luis Joa and Ramiro Abreu of the America Department of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and Nicolasa Rodriguez of the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

DELEGATE TO JAKARTA ON U.S. 'HOSTILE PROPAGANDA'

PA010407 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Orestes Gispert, vice president of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television, ICRT, has charged in Jakarta that the United States intends to create a radio station to broadcast anti-Cuban propaganda. Gispert noted that this action constitutes meddling in Cuba's internal affairs, and is also a violation of the international regulations on radio broadcasting, which prohibit the use of the medium wave to air hostile propaganda against other countries.

Gispert recalled the resolution on the use of radio as a means of broadcasting hostile propaganda against the nonaligned countries that was approved at the recent Conference of Nonaligned Information Ministers, and stressed that this document was aimed at preventing this sort of action. The document noted that the use of radio for subversive intentions constitutes a provocation and meddling in the internal affairs of another nation, increases international tension, makes dialogue difficult, and poses the danger of having this communications medium turned into another sphere of confrontation.

Orestes Gispert was a member of the Cuban delegation to the Jakarta Nonaligned Information Conference.

FERNANDEZ MELL RECEIVES ECLA DELEGATION

FL020101 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Oscar Fernandez Mell, Central Committee member and president of the Executive Committee of the People's Government, Havana City, received an ECLA delegation at the headquarters of the People's Government. This delegation includes Julio Roberto Jimenez, (Roberto Jovel), and (Fabian Yanez), assistants to the director of the Mexican ECLA organization and the Pan American Health Organization.

The ECLA delegation is visiting Cuba to review with the authorities of the People's Government in Havana City Province different aspects of the assistance and support given to Havana by ECLA and the Pan American Health Organization in the fields of water supply and drainage.

ROVING FRENCH AMBASSADOR DEPARTS FOR PANAMA

FL010202 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] (Antoine Blanca), French roving ambassador for Latin American affairs, ended his visit to Cuba today and traveled to Panama. Francisco Ramos, director for Western Europe of the Foreign Ministry, and French Ambassador to Cuba Pierre Decamps saw him off at the airport.

Shortly before his departure, Ambassador (Blanca) gave a press conference during which he stated that he and Fidel Castro had examined the grave Latin American economic situation revealed at the conference in Quito, Ecuador. He stated that President Fidel Castro expressed great concern over a situation which could have grave social and political consequences if the international community does not adopt worldwide measures so that developing countries will cease to be the victims of a disorder imposed by international capitalism.

In his conversation with newsmen concerning his activities in Cuba, Ambassador (Blanca) stressed the meetings he had with Jesus Montane, alternate member of the party Politburo, and Isidoro Malmierca, minister of foreign relations. Ambassador (Blanca) pointed out the usefulness of the exchange of views in these meetings and stressed the fact that these Cuban leaders share his concern for the still undefined peaceful solution for Latin America.

HERRERO ON FRIENDSHIP, COOPERATION WITH USSR

For an article by Antonio Perez Herrero, candidate member of the Politburo and member of the Secretariat of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee, on friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union, including remarks on U.S. Central American policy, in the Moscow Russian-language daily PRAVDA, see the Latin America & Caribbean section of the 2 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

COMMENTARY LAUDS NATION'S SERVICE IN NICARAGUA

PA011515 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] One of the tasks performed by the Cuban people with utmost love, responsibility, and satisfaction is service abroad, as it enables us to contribute practical and theoretical knowledge for the benefit of other nations, and to carry out Jose Marti's motto, which we have always honored: Our fatherland is mankind.

Health is one of the fields in which Cuba has significantly helped other countries. Nicaragua, liberated in July 1979, is one of the more than 20 nations in which contingents of Cuban health workers are serving.

This collaboration began in 1979, when the Sandinist government had only been in power for a few months. At an international meeting in Caracas, the Pan American Health Organization, PAHO, asked for Cuba's support in training technical and auxiliary personnel in the health sector. The first step was to send advisers from the Public Health Ministry to Managua and to receive Nicaraguan personnel to be trained in our centers. However, it was not until 17 July 1980 that the program initiated between Cuba, Nicaragua, and the PAHO was made official with the signing of an agreement between the two countries and the director of that health organization.

In this manner, we have shown that even in the case of two small, developing countries, the transfer of scientific and technological knowledge can be carried out for the benefit of both.

After the general basis for implementing the cooperation program had been established, the next step was to equip and inaugurate the first health educational center, which was established in Managua. Similar institutions were established later in the Departments of Esteli, Rivas, Matagalpa, and others, totaling 13, with a capacity for 1,421 students. The Managua center became the Luis Felipe Moncada Polytechnic Health Institute, which taught 11 specialties in the past school year.

The training of the first group of Nicaraguan personnel lasted 2 years, and 32 Cuban specialists participated. In addition, a group of Cuban and Nicaraguan authors, as well as persons from the University of Costa Rica, prepared a textbook to be used in nursing schools which can be adapted to developing countries.

At present, 116 technicians are studying in Nicaragua, while 46 Nicaraguan youths are studying in various Cuban cities in the fields of ophthalmology, clinic laboratory, microbiology, dietetics, and others. As of the end of the most recent course, almost 2,800 auxiliaries and middle-level health technicians had graduated, thanks to this cooperation program.

A top official of the PAHO said recently that more than 95 percent of the plan had been fulfilled, and stressed that the success of this program shows that when two governments are interested in undertaking a specific activity and agree on the way to do it, anything is possible.

Cuba's help to several other countries is an example of cooperation between developing countries.

ELECTORAL PROCESS BEGINS 31 JAN IN NICARAGUA

PA010203 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The electoral process that will culminate in 1985 began today in Nicaragua. The draft of the electoral law is expected to be presented to the State Council in the first half of February. The electoral commission is discussing the draft of the electoral bill, which will be closely examined by the various political organizations.

NICARAGUAN LEADER ON SOLDIERS' RIGHT TO VOTE

FL011908 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Commander Victor Tirado, member of the FSLN National Directorate, has stated in Managua that soldiers not only have the right to vote in Nicaraguan elections, but as part of the Nicaraguan population, they also have the right to participate in the making of the fundamental decisions of their country's revolutionary process.

Tirado's statements were made during his speech at the closing of the first assembly of the National Agriculture and Livestock Union [Union Nacional de Agricultura y Ganaderia], held in the Nicaraguan capital.

The Sandinist leader added that soldiers cannot be excluded from the fundamental processes in Nicaragua, because they are the protagonists, the ones carrying the principal burden of the insurrection against tyranny, and the ones now charged with the responsibility of defending the country.

Later, Tirado stressed that Nicaraguan soldiers do not constitute an army, but rather an armed people -- the vital nucleus of Nicaraguan society -- who have made possible the principal revolutionary transformations in the country.

Referring to the electoral process, which was officially initiated yesterday, he added that the majority forces will make the decision because this is a battle between two worlds and two systems -- one unremittingly dying and one undergoing a painful birth.

1,500 INTERNATIONALISTS NOW WORKING IN NICARAGUA

FL011315 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1235 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Managua -- According to a PRELA dispatch, approximately 1,500 internationalists of Western Europe and North America have arrived in Nicaragua since December to express their solidarity with the Sandinist revolution by carrying out specific tasks.

Brigades from the FRG, France, Spain, the Netherlands, the United States, and Mexico are giving support to agro-industrial, energy, and health projects. These internationalists pay their own fares and bring their own equipment, which they donate to Nicaragua when they leave. We particularly noted hundreds of specialists who pick coffee and cotton under difficult conditions, some in remote places near combat areas.

The Nicaraguan Committee of Solidarity with the Peoples announced that eight more brigades from Austria, Switzerland, the FRG, France, the United States, Canada, Italy, Sweden, and Finland are expected to arrive this month.

NICARAGUA'S EPS NOTES ANTI-SANDINIST CASUALTIES

PA010411 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Commander Hugo Torres has reported in Managua that in January the Sandinist People's Army, EPS, inflicted approximately 200 dead and an undetermined number of wounded on the Somozist mercenaries. Torres, chief of the political section of the EPS, added that the counterrevolutionaries who infiltrated Nicaragua from Honduras in late December and early January have been scattered.

In commenting on an alleged turnover of some 200 counterrevolutionaries to the Costa Rican Government by Eden Pastora, Torres said this is another show mounted by that traitor to prompt the United States to give him more financial aid. He stressed that the forces led by Pastora have been hit psychologically and militarily.

Commander Hugo Torres also charged that the new phase of the U.S.-Honduran "Big Pine" military maneuvers increases the danger of an imperialist invasion of Nicaragua and El Salvador. From a maneuver to an invasion, Torres underscored, is only one step.

MINISTRY SAYS 400 NICARAGUANS RETURN FOR AMNESTY

PA020403 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Interior Ministry reported in Managua today that some 400 Nicaraguans have returned to their homeland from neighboring countries. The report adds that between 18 and 27 January, 31 people who had participated in armed attacks returned to Nicaragua. Their participation was primarily the result of the lies told and pressure exerted by counterrevolutionary groups.

The Nicaraguan Government has granted guarantees for all who left the country after 19 July 1979 to return except for Somozists, criminals, and counterrevolutionary leaders.

COSTA RICA REFUSES ENTRY TO EDEN PASTORA

FL011846 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Counterrevolutionary leader Eden Pastora and his followers were denied entry into Costa Rica by that country's authorities after a meeting last night in San Jose of the National Security Council.

Costa Rican Vice President Armando Arauz, who presided over the Council's sessions, said: There are specific orders not to allow Pastora into our country, and to capture him if he is found violating our territory and compromising our neutrality.

It was also learned that Colonel (Gilberto Orozco), chief of the Rural Guard in northern Costa Rica, was officially suspended from his duties for having met with Pastora and allowing him to enter Costa Rican territory with his 192-man contingent.

Last weekend the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary group entered Costan Rican territory through San Carlos Canto, north of San Jose, from Nicaragua, where they had been carrying out aggressive actions. Pastora at that time requested entry into Costa Rica, claiming that he lacked money, food, clothing, medicine, and other means of survival. His admission that he could not provide for some 3,000 counterrevolutionaries was interpreted by various media sources to mean his efforts against the Sandinist process had failed.

SHULTZ CONFIRMS U.S. SUPPORT FOR EL SALVADOR

FL011314 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The aggressive policy of the United States regarding the Central American conflict was evident at the close of the visit by Secretary of State George Shultz to El Salvador, according to the region's news media. The U.S. official stated after his visit that the United States would offer the Salvadoran regime all the support necessary in its struggle against the guerrillas.

During his stay in San Salvador, Shultz held talks with the chief of the regime, Alvaro Magana, and with Defense Minister General Eugenio Vides Casanova. In his talks with these officials, Shultz discussed the increase in U.S. aid and the upcoming presidential elections.

The next stop on Shultz' tour will be Caracas, where he will attend the inauguration of the new president of Venezuela, Jaime Lusinchi. Later Shultz will visit Brazil, Grenada, and Barbados.

ANTIGUERRILLA OPERATIONS IN EL SALVADOR NOTED

Clashes in Usulutan

PA010202 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Strong clashes between guerrillas and the Army continue in eastern El Salvador, where the regime's troops are conducting a new antiguerrilla operation, mainly in the Department of Usulutan. As part of this operation, the Salvadoran Air Force has intensified its bombing of rural areas in Usulutan, which has resulted in a large number of victims among the civilian population.

Electrical Facilities Hit

PA012017 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] FMLN sappers dynamited high tension cable pylons in San Salvador and San Vincente Departments, causing power outages in sections of San Salvador, the capital, and throughout extensive portions of eastern El Salvador.

Radio Venceremos, official voice of the FMLN, reported that Dragonfly A-37 planes of the Salvadoran Air Force bombed several cantons in Chalatenango and Santa Ana Departments. Many civilians were killed as a result of the attacks.

Another rebel station, Radio Farabundo Marti, reported that a new political-military training school has been opened in Santa Ana Department to train the hundreds of youths who have recently joined the rebel ranks.

The station also announced the opening of a poetry contest in which all FMLN fighters may participate.

Costa Rican Daily Cited

FL011354 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The Costa Rican daily LA NACION has confirmed, by means of a visit by its reporters, that the Salvadoran guerrillas control a large amount of territory, especially in eastern El Salvador. The Costa Rican journalists confirmed that the rebels are exercising full power in 60 of the country's 163 municipalities, and that they are expelling the regime's military troops.

It has also been learned that in Usulutan, guerrilla forces have been fighting government troops since 20 January. The government troops are making a desperate effort to regain control of this department. The Armed Forces have increased indiscriminate bombings of rural areas, causing civilian casualties.

GUATEMALA'S ANDRADE NOTES HELICOPTER PARTS SALE

PA020356 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade has asserted that the renewal of the U.S. weapon sales constitutes recognition of an improvement in Guatemala's human rights situation. However, this was immediately denied by a U.S. State Department official, who said that Washington decided to sell spare military helicopter parts to Guatemala even though the human rights situation there has not improved at all.

The U.S. decision even contradicts a recommendation in the so-called Kissinger commission's controversial document; the commission could not avoid mentioning the brutal behavior of Guatemala's repressive corps.

Observers note that the supply of U.S. weapons to Guatemala is primarily intended to ensure the inclusion of the Guatemalan Army in U.S. interventionist plans for Central America.

The British Government has stated its concern over the renewed sale of U.S. weapons to Guatemala, because this might have negative repercussions for British troops deployed in Belize.

ORPA ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON ACTIONS IN GUATEMALA

PA011421 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] the Guatemalan Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms [ORPA] has issued a communique announcing that its forces occupied several farms in Santa Rosa Department in the south, and in Suchitepequez Department in the southwest. ORPA, which is a member of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, adds that after occupying the farms, the insurgents held political meetings with the workers and distributed revolutionary propaganda.

ORPA also explains that the attack staged on 26 January on the presidential house was intended for military objectives exclusively and that no damage was caused to the civilian population.

Meanwhile, the Guatemalan Committee of Peasant Unity has charged that dozens of children and elderly people in that Central American country have died from hunger, illness, and exposure.

HONDURAN ARMY INCURSIONS INTO GUATEMALA RUMORED

PA012309 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] It has been rumored in Guatemala City that the Honduran Army has made incursions into Guatemala through border areas in Chiquimula Department.

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran has stated that he has not yet received an official report on incursions into Guatemala by Honduran Army troops. The troops were said to be chasing rebels who had entered Guatemalan territory.

General Gustavo Adolfo Lopez, Guatemalan Government minister, said that he will attempt to clarify the situation with Honduran authorities.

U.S.-HONDURAN OPERATION BEGINS IN OLANCHO

PA010439 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] With the deployment of large quantities of material resources and thousands of troops, the Agalpa Operation began in the Honduran Department of Olancho to end the second phase of the "Big Pine" maneuvers that U.S. and Honduran troops are staging in that Central American country. According to Lieutenant Colonel Alvaro Romero of the Honduran Army staff, the simulated tactical objective of the Agalpa Operation is to destroy a guerrilla outbreak in the interior of Honduras that is promoted by a neighboring country and that has gained support among the population. He added that the exercise included psychological and political actions among the population of the area to dismantle the infrastructure of the popular support for the guerrillas. The Agalpa Operation will last 7 days. About 7,000 soldiers, more than 1,000 of them North American, will participate in it.

Other reports indicate that the Ronald Reagan government has plans for other war games in Honduras, which have been given the name of Granadera in honor of the anthem of the Central American confederation that existed at the end of the last century, and in which the Salvadoran and Guatemalan Armies are almost sure to participate.

WASHINGTON POST on U.S. Plans

PA012130 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The U.S. daily THE WASHINGTON POST today reported that the United States has plans for approximately 1,000 military troops to remain in Honduras after the conclusion of the "Big Pine II" joint maneuvers on Monday. Central American media had previously reported that some 1,000 U.S. soldiers would remain in Honduras to participate in war games planned by Washington and Tegucigalpa for mid-1984.

THE WASHINGTON POST adds that during the "Big Pine II" drills, the United States built permanent installations in Honduras without informing the U.S. Congress. The paper notes that the installations, which include highways, ports, airstrips, and housing units, indicate that Washington is giving the Tegucigalpa regime more military aid than is authorized by the U.S. Congress.

The second phase of th. "Big Pine II" joint U.S.-Honduran maneuvers will end with the Agalpa Operation. The object of this exercise is to eliminate an imaginary guerrilla group that has entered Honduras from Nicaragua following Nicaragua's defeat by conventional warfare.

STRIKES STAGED IN TWO PERUVIAN DEPARTMENTS

PA010412 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Residents in the Peruvian departments of Piura and Tumbes -- devastated by 6 months of floods -- are staging a 24-hour strike today, protesting the lack of government attention and demanding socioeconomic measures to alleviate the distressing situation they are currently facing.

The strikes are mainly aimed at demanding a modest use of the so-called reconstruction funds in these departments. These funds were obtained by the government through external credits and compulsory deductions in the salaries of all Peruvian workers. The Peruvian Congress is currently analyzing charges that these funds are being diverted into the hands of unscrupulous government officials.

4 PERUVIAN POLICEMEN KILLED IN REBEL ATTACK

PA020451 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] It has been reported in Lima that four policemen died when the civil guard post in Aucayacu, Huanuco Department, was attacked with dynamite. The attack on the 14-man police station took place last night, when only the 4 policemen were present.

It was also reported that the political-military command in the emergency zone -- comprising 11 provinces in Ayacucho, Apurimac, and Huancavelica, where the clandestine organization Shining Path focuses its actions -- issued a communique to deny information recently published by the local press. The communique rejected allegations that 40 peasants had been murdered in the area of (Huramacancha), Ayacucho Department. It also denied statements reportedly made by the chief of the political-military command in the province of Huanta, Ayacucho Department.

MEXICAN PARTY COMMENTS ON REAGAN CANDIDACY

PA010413 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The Unified Socialist Party of Mexico [PSUM] has stated that Ronald Reagan does not offer any guarantees to humankind that the arms race will stop. PSUM spokesman Jaime Trejo made the statement in view of Reagan's decision to run for reelection in the United States.

OECS TECHNOCRATS TO MEET IN ST LUCIA 2-3 FEB

FL012224 Bridgetown CANA in English 2103 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Feb 1 (CANA) -- Technocrats from the seven-member Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) start a two-day meeting in Castries tomorrow, in preparation for meetings of government leaders and foreign ministers.

The permanent secretaries in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs will meet tomorrow, and those of the Prime Ministers' Office on Friday. Dates for the heads of government and foreign ministers meeting have not been fixed.

The foreign officials will discuss relations with other organisations such as the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), and a report on relations between the OECS and the Organisation of American States (OAS).

Delegates will also discuss the establishment of relations with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and consider an application from the British Virgin Islands and Anguilla for membership to the OECS.

Director of Administration of the OECS Augustus Compton said that the officials will look at the existing arrangements for foreign representation. In this regard, St Lucia is expected to submit a recommendation for an OECS presence to be established in the Far East, a move being pursued by Prime Minister John Compton following a four-day official visit to South Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong.

Other matters expected to come before Thursday's meeting are related to the Law of the Sea and fisheries.

The second meeting of officials will prepare an agenda for the 4th meeting of the heads of government. It will consider the establishment of a legal unit at the OECS Secretariat. The officials will also review the Grenada situation and discuss the question of security for the OECS states. Matters related to the Supreme Court, tourism, and civil aviation will also be taken up.

EEC GROUP TOURS AREA, PLEDGES MORE SUPPORT

FL011700 Bridgetown CANA in English 1552 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Feb 1 (CANA) -- A delegation from the European Economic Community (EEC) left Dominica today, reporting its satisfaction with the EEC-funded projects in several Caribbean countries and envisioning continued financial assistance to the region.

Joannes Ter Haar, the Barbados-based eastern Caribbean delegate of the EEC, told reporters that the 27-member team had been impressed with the projects viewed in Barbados, St Lucia, Dominica, and Guyana. The delegation, now on a two-week tour of the region, will also visit Antigua-Barbuda and Jamaica.

Ter Haar said: "We've been very impressed by the government's assurances to ensure that the projects we support go through as planned." He described the trip as "an absolute success."

The EEC spokesman promised continued European support for projects in the Caribbean.

"The current position is that the Caribbean forms part of the African, Caribbean, Pacific (ACP) Group...and we give it as much attention as we can..." he said.

However, delegation member Justin Loasby, of the European Investment Bank (EIB). said that while under the Lome Convention linking the EEC and ACP blocs his institution providing development money for all ACP states, there were some constraints facing projects submitted by this region.

"I think the constraints which we come up against are to find good projects in the sectors which we operate with dynamic management," he told reporters.

He said, however, to date no project submitted by Caribbean governments with such a problem had been rejected.

"It is more a question of working together with the government to ensure that when projects go ahead, adequate management and technical expertise are at hand."

Loasby said that his institution was involved in the industrial and energy sectors in the region providing large lines of credit to the local finance corporations for on-lending to potential investors.

In the case of Dominica, the multi-million dollar Carib spring water project, which was formally opened here yesterday, represented the first such credit by the EIB to the island.

The EIB provided the local Agricultural and Industrial Development (AID) Bank with 1.8 million dollars (one E.C. dollar; 37 cents U.S.) for on-lending to the investors involved in the 2.2-million EC dollar project.

Loasby said that the EIB was now looking at a series of smaller projects for Dominica, but he did not elaborate.

The delegation met with Dominica Prime Minister Eugenia Charles on the upcoming Lome III Convention negotiations and said that under this treaty this country would seek continued expansion of its hydro-electric schemes, training, investments, further feeder roads, and agricultural diversification.

Ter Haar said that Dominica had received 9.5 million U.S. dollars in assistance under the previous Lome Conventions, but could not say what was in store for the island under the new treaty, "because we are still negotiating its final terms."

The delegation flew to Antigua today for talks with management of the inter-island airline LIAT, which is seeking assistance to the tune of 26 million U.S. dollars.

The money is to support the purchase of four more aircraft to replace aging planes.

Ter Haar said that 16 million U.S. dollars will come from the European Development Fund, with the remainder from the European Investment Bank, if the project is approved.

The EEC will decide on February 14 whether to grant the loan to the airline, which is owned by regional governments.

BARBADOS

BRIEFS

HIGH COMMISSIONER'S CREDENTIALS -- Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 1 (CANA) -- The new non-resident Indian High Commissioner-designate to Barbados, P.P. D'Souza, today begins an official five-day visit here during which he will present his credentials to acting Governor-General Sir William Douglas (February 2). Prior to the presentation of his credentials, Trinidad-based D'Souza will pay a courtesy call on the acting minister of foreign affairs, Senator Nigel Barrow. The high commissioner leaves Barbados on Sunday. [Summary] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1618 GMT 1 Feb 84 FL]

DOMINICA

PRIME MINISTER CHARLES DEPARTS FOR U.S. VISIT

FL012210 Bridgetown CANA in English 1903 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Feb 1 (CANA) -- Prime Minister Eugenia Charles left here today for a two-and-a-half week visit of the United States.

A government statement said that Miss Charles will attend a meeting of the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development (CGCED). She is also expected to hold talks with members of the U.S. Senate's Foreign Affairs Committee and the Appropriations Committee. She will meet with a number of potential investors and address two universities.

GRENADA

GAIRY MEETS WITH HEAD OF INTERIM GOVERNMENT

FL020033 Bridgetown CANA in English 0018 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Feb 1 (CANA) -- Former Grenada Prime Minister Eric Gairy, who was deposed in a 1979 coup, today had his first meeting with the island's new interim administration, well-placed government sources said.

Sir Eric, who returned to Grenada about two weeks ago after living in exile in the United States for nearly five years, met with the head of the nine-man interim government Nicholas Brathwaite. Brathwaite later confirmed he met with Sir Eric, but declined to comment on the nature of the discussions. He would only say that the ex-prime minister made an appointment and came to his office as a private citizen of Grenada.

However, well-placed government sources indicated that one of the issues raised by Sir Eric was the possibility of the interim government returning to him property seized by the former leftwing government which came to power after Gairy was deposed in the 1979 coup.

GAIRY HECKLED, BOOED IN FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE

FL011600 Bridgetown CANA in English 1517 GMT 1 Feb 84

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Feb 1 (CANA) -- Ex-Prime Minister of Grenada Sir Eric Gairy was given a hostile reception today when he made his first public appearance since returning home from exile in the United States on January 21.

A crowd of about 100 heckled, booed, and told Gairy to go back to the United States when the flamboyant former head of government stepped out of a car on Moncton Street, on the outskirts of the capital. One elderly man offered Gairy a hug.

Gairy, wearing a brown pinstripe three-piece suit, had been driven by a close friend, lawyer Herbert Squires, to the area, where there are several businesses and government offices, as well as a museum. The museum contains some of Gairy's possessions, seized by the leftist People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) that was installed after Sir Eric was deposed in a March 1979 coup.

A crowd started to gather as word of Gairy's appearance circulated. After about 10 minutes, an unidentified male passenger hustled Gairy into the waiting brown, Japanese-made car and they drove off.

Today's reception contrasted with the warm welcome Gairy received from members and supporters of his Grenada United Labour Party when he flew back home, ending almost five years of exile. Gairy has been living in a house owned by Squires and keeping a low profile.

AID, PROJECT HOPE INITIATE HEALTH CARE SERVICES

FL011615 Bridgetown CANA in English 1445 GMT 1 Feb 84

[By Alister Huges]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Feb 1 (CANA) -- The United States says it has already handed over just over a third of the 27 million dollars (U.S.) in aid allocated to Grenada since last October's bloody political disturbances here.

A spokesman for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) said yesterday that in the 95 days since the October 25, 1983 joint military intervention here by American and Caribbean forces to end the strife, USAID had finalised 22 projects with the government and paid over 9.5 million (U.S.) dollars into local treasury for implementation of these schemes. Additionally, USAID has pledged a further 17.5 million U.S. dollars, he said.

The USAID official spoke on the occasion of the initialling of an agreement between the Government of Grenada and the American Foundation Project Hope. Ray Smith, member of Grenada's interim administration responsible for health, signed the document along with Dr William B. Walsh, president and founder of Project Hope.

Walsh said the programme is to bring in initially physicians to meet some immediate health care needs because of certain specialities. There will be also family-type physicians to assist in the rural districts. "We will have 20 people here by the end of this week," he said, "and these are doctors, sanitary engineers, and bio-medical technicians (to repair medical equipment) to train people."

Walsh said Grenada's contribution to the effort to assist the Grenada medical service will be provision of office space, some secretarial help, and transport drivers. Other than this, there will be no cost to the island, the cost of medical personnel and other costs being borne by Project Hope and USAID.

The Project Hope president said he envisioned that Grenada will assume more and more responsibility for the health programme as the economy improves. He felt the cooperation offered to the Grenada Government by Project Hope and USAID will probably stretch over 3 to 5 years.

JAMAICA

SEAGA ADDRESSES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 17 JAN

FL252212 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Jan 84 p 6

[Statement by Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga to the Jamaican House of Representatives on 17 January]

[Text] Mr Speaker: On January 10, a new Parliament was sworn in.

So began a new chapter in our Constitutional history with all elected seats occupied by one political party as a result of the failure of the other major political party to contest the general elections of December 15, 1983.

It may be considered in some quarters that the absence of an elected opposition would create a Parliament of one view only with no voice of criticism or dissent.

This, logically, would be a natural consequence if the elected government chose to take full advantage of the clear vacancy created by an absentee opposition. Not so, however, if there exists a commitment to the form of Government in which opposing views co-exist in the Parliament to offer different viewpoints.

To this system, the Government is fully committed, and steps which I shall outline here are being taken to encourage the full participation of voices of criticism of and differing viewpoints on the policies and programmes of government. We believe that the deepest conviction of the people will come after the opportunity to examine and review any measure under consideration in Parliament has been exercised and that without this opportunity the degree of conviction will curtail the level of support.

This system of adversary politics to which we are deeply wedded, is but one element of the democratic system of Government. The other essential component is, of course, the free choice of Government by the electorate.

I make these points to enable the parliamentary record to affirm that the Government having taken all the Constitutional steps required for the holding of elections, is pursuing a course to ensure that all the Constitutional steps required are also taken to encourage the presentation of different points of view within the Parliamentary system to fulfill the twin principles on which the system of Parliamentary democracy rests.

Those who equate the absence of an elected opposition with an absence of democracy, may do so by right of free expression, whether for partisan reason or out of ignorance, but the records of Parliament will show that we are about to begin a chapter of parliamentary life in which participation by the people in the framing of legislation and the making of decisions on the principles and policies by which the country is governed, is wider and deeper than at any time in our history.

The Government is determined that the country will not suffer from any lack of democracy in its Parliamentary life because of an absentee opposition, although we may suffer from an over-abundance of discussion and opinions on the basis of the extensive range of opportunities which the people will now have to record their voice of consent or dissent and to influence the course of decisions in Parliament.

I will now outline the processes by which the voice of the people will be heard in the Parliamentary system.

I begin with the Senate which in our Constitutional framework is the upper chamber of the Legislature.

The appointment by the governor-general of eight independent Senators in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution has provided the basis on which a true adversary system can proceed. It should be noted that the Senate, as appointed in this Parliamentary term, has come closer to reflecting the intention of the Constitution than any other Senate in our history as a chamber of independent expertise and opinion.

All forms of Parliamentary practice are open to the Senate as in the normal course of Legislative business. Senators are able to debate bills, move resolutions, ask questions, submit petitions, and to carry out the full range of Parliamentary activity afforded in the standing orders of the Senate. The only exception is that noted in Section 55 (2) of the Constitution which states that "a money bill shall not be introduced in the Senate."

It is in the House of Representatives that special provisions must be made and I here outline the steps that will be taken to ensure open debate within this chamber through participation of the public.

The Government has decided to accord the equivalent of 15 "seats" to spokesman from the public by providing for any number of speakers to a maximum of 15 to make presentations on bills or motions before the House or to submit petitions.

Presentation is open to any member of the public who conforms to the Parliamentary practices of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives, and to the procedures now to be outlined.

Members of the public wishing to present their viewpoint on matters to be debated in the House or by way of petition to the House will be required to submit these presentations in writing to the Speaker who will ensure that the content of the presentation conforms with the Parliamentary procedures laid down in the Standing Orders.

The Standing Orders now provide that members of the public may be summoned to the bar of the House. An amendment to Standing Orders will provide that members of the public may be invited to make a presentation to the House.

Within the maximum number of 15, each presentation must not exceed 15 minutes in the reading of a written submission and the House may decide to allow a further period for oral amplification of the submission by the presenter. This accords with the existing limit of 30 minutes for presentations by members of the House under Standing Orders and the right of the House to agree to extensions of speaking time.

Submissions by the public will be made in the case of debate on bills at the point in debate when the House resolves itself into a committee of the whole House to consider the bill, clause by clause. In so doing, no departure from existing Standing Orders, which already so provides, will be necessary. However, I think it ought to be mentioned here that a committee of the whole House is for deliberation and not enquiry.

If the minister responsible for the bill decides that the measure should be further reviewed by a select committees, then those members of the public making submissions on the bill who wish to make further submissions to the select committee will be invited to do so. This accords with present practice which allows public participation in select committees.

Similarly, members of the public may submit resolutions for debate in Parliament on matters of national, not constituency nor community interests, unless these are of a critical national character. The Speaker, as is the case of current practice, will determine whether a resolution submitted is of national interest.

Written petitions may be submitted by the public in accordance with these procedures. These will be examined by standing committees of the House on various subject matters, comprised of back benchers. The petitioners in examining the merits of petitions and in reporting to the House, may examine ministers and such records of Government as are relevant.

I am aware that these new procedures will be more demanding of Members of Parliament in participation of Parliamentary business. In a sense this is yet another worthy feature of the new Parliamentary order. But the public should also be aware that members of Parliament are also elected to serve their constituencies and that Ministers, Ministers of State, and Parliamentary Secretaries carry additional duties.

However, I have placed great emphasis on the time to be afforded by members to the business of their constituencies and accordingly, to assist them in ordering their business to ensure that no conflict of time arises. The new parliamentary timetable will provide for Parliament to meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month and on Wednesdays and Thursdays of those weeks if the business of the House requires. Parliament will meet in the second and fourth weeks of the month only on matters of urgency which may not fit into the regular timetable.

Rules of the Standing Orders will be amended to provide that subsistence allowance payable to Members of Parliament to cover expenses contingent on attendance at Parliament will not be paid to those absent without reasons of illness, official travel, or other sufficient cause as may be determined.

The procedures governing debate will also be altered to allow, except in cases of emergency, a minimum of two weeks between the tabling of Bills or resolutions and debate to enable those who wish to participate to have adequate time for preparation. The date of debate of measures before the House will be noted at the time of presentation.

I recognise, too, that my own time must be so allocated to give still wider allowance for consultation with the public. Accordingly, I propose to set aside one day of each month to meet with organisations which desire audience.

I further propose, on a regular basis, to tour rural parishes to view conditions first hand and to inspect projects, on a given day of each month.

And, finally, I propose, along with my family, to worship on one Sunday in each month with the people in a different parish among different denominations so that we may ask God's blessing together as we make our way on uncharted waters in a frank and honest effort to give the people a strong voice and firm presence in making the decisions by which we all are governed.

Notwithstanding all the wider opportunities which the new parliamentary order will offer, there are those who will still maintain that a Government without an elected Opposition lacks a legitimacy which must be urgently rectified by new general elections.

Let me warn that this argument is not only most dangerous, it is also invalid. If all that is required to abrogate the legitimacy of a Government were the nonparticipation by a major political party in the process of elections, then it would be the Opposition and not the Government that determined if and when elections are to be held, a course no Government could ever accept because it would imply an abdication from its authority and, by extension, from its responsibility.

Furthermore, it is contrary to our Constitution. Let me remind the House of the words of the Right Excellent Norman Manley, one of the fathers of our Constitution, who in debating the form of our Constitution in this very chamber in 1961, said:

"As I pointed out, the Constitution entrenches the regularity of sittings of Parliament, and the Constitution does something else. It vests in the Prime Minister the power of dissolving the House when he thinks fit; and it vests this power in him more firmly and unquestionably than it is done in any other modern Constitution. For we were concerned to see that once the Government is elected, the Prime Minister should not be exposed to manoeuvres to shift power within the House, which could almost result in a sort of traffic and trade across the floor of the House.

"The Prime Minister will hold one very effective power, once he is put into power by the people who have put him in power. If anybody wants to subvert his authority and upset him, he can say: 'Very well: We will go to the public of the country and have an election.' There are lots of arguments both sides and all around. But as I see it, this is a great safeguard. No other constitution that I know of in this world has done it and done it in the way that we have done it. It is an entirely novel way."

If all that is required to upset the balance of political power of Government and Opposition envisaged in our Constitution, is for those who wish to project their egos from the deflation of political defeat, to offer reasons of principle dubious or not, (of which there will always be many under any Government) to withdraw from elections, then the democratic process would be frustrated.

To indulge such persons in the fantasy that they merit our concern and must be heeded in their demand that elections be called on timetables of their own, is to pursue a path which like nothing else that may be practised, will mark the end of parliamentary Government as we know it.

Let me advise also that political parties are not an Opposition under the Constitution until they are elected to Parliament.

Indeed, Mr Speaker, as you reminded this Honourable House at the swearing-in ceremony a week ago, our Constitution does not recognise political parties. What it does recognise is the sole right of those elected to Parliament to form the Government. And it recognises the right of all citizens to free association and free expression among other entrenched freedoms.

This means that the only opposition that can be recognised as having legal or constitutional status is the one that is elected in accordance with the Constitution.

Any other form of Opposition is unconstitutional and illegal and we must not indulge the dangerous fantasies of those who want to ride the horse both ways -- leave the parliamentary system and operate from the base of a political party, which the Constitution does not recognise, but at the same time be afforded all the rights and privileges of an opposition elected with the Parliamentary system.

They cannot have it both ways -- running with the hares while hunting with the hounds -- and this Government will not encourage these delusions which if they are allowed credibility would lead to precedents dangerous to the balance in our constitutional life.

What we must do is to encourage parties outside the Parliamentary system to follow the only legitimate course to success by winning public support, contesting elections, and thereby gaining constitutional access to political power.

Within the limits of legal and constitutional rights, the Government will give encouragement to political parties playing that role and following that course to bring them back into Parliament where they may play a constitutional role. But we will not indulge the delusions of absentees who treat Parliament like a hot water bath -- jumping in when it's warm and out when it's cold.

In introducing this new parliamentary order the Government will open new and full avenues of expression of views and encourage the use of these channels within the practical capabilities and decorum of Parliament.

We begin a new chapter with exciting possibilities to create a Parliamentary process which could be the most democratic in our history in its open access to the people.

We must not regard this, however, as an acceptable substitute for the adversary system of Government and Opposition seated in the same Parliament.

But until that day returns, let us use the opportunity, to the fullest; of all those who wish involvement, to the fullest; with the intent of opening the doors, to the fullest form of Parliamentary experience which can only enrich the final products of legislation and policy with the fullest benefits from which we can only gain.

And let God guide us in our deliberations.

BRIEFS

DAILIES TRIM SIZE -- Kingston, Jamaica, Feb 1 (CANA) -- Jamaica's mass circulation GLEANER newspaper today trimmed its size and pushed up its price as it began activities to mark the 150th anniversary of its birth. Today's GLEANER is 12.7 inches wide by 22 inches long, 1.3 inches narrower than yesterday's. It now cost 70 Jamaican cents -- 10 cents more than yesterday's price. The Sunday edition is to move from 85 cents to one dollar. It's evening sister, THE STAR, which is a tabloid, is also being trimmed, and when it hits the streets later today, its width will be 10.3 inches instead of the previous 14 inches. The 14 inches length will remain. The GLEANER Company said that increase in price and the trimming was because of substantial increases on production costs. [Summary] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1708 GMT 1 Feb 84 FL]

ST LUCIA

COMPTON TO ATTEND LUSINCHI INAUGURATION

FL012216 Bridgetown CANA in English 1905 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Feb 1 (CANA) -- Prime Minister John Compton left the state yesterday for Venezuela to attend tomorrow's inauguration ceremony for President-elect Jaime Lusinchi.

Compton is accompanied by Parliamentary Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office John Bristol and his wife, Mrs Janice Compton. The delegation is due back on Friday.

Several heads of government are expected to attend tomorrow's ceremony. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is already in Caracas for the ceremony.

PERU

TERRORISTS ATTACK POLICE STATION; FIVE DIE

PY020133 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1515 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Lima, 1 Feb (EFE) -- Today the Civil Guard announced that four policemen and one civilian died in an attack on a police station in the town of Aucayacu, located in the Peruvian jungle between the northern Departments of Junin and San Martin.

According to the police report, some 50 heavily armed terrorists attacked the Aucayacu Civil Guard post and killed a corporal and three guardsmen.

A civilian also died in the shootout, but it has not been determined whether he was an innocent victim or a terrorist. The alleged members of the terrorist "Shining Path" group then destroyed the police post with dynamite, and planted a red flag bearing a hammer and sickle.

The police report also stated that another 30 terrorists attacked the premises of the Alto Huallaga agricultural complex, also located in Tingo Maria, near the Aucayacu police station, but that they were repelled. According to the Civil Guard, an engineer was wounded by a bullet.

SURINAME

AGREEMENT REACHED ON PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

PA020029 Hilversum International Service in Spanish 2330 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The military regime in Suriname has reached an agreement with the labor unions and the private sector concerning the creation of a provisional government. (?The report was broadcast) over Surinamese television, but as of now no information has been released on the agreement's contents.

Journalists in Paramaribo, the Surinamese capital, have learned that the government decree establishing the bases for a provisional government will be released today, Wednesday. The cabinet will be sworn in, as scheduled, next Friday.

Labor unions and the private sector have established conditions for their participation in the provisional cabinet -- freedom of press and the reinstatement of democratic structures. In addition, the private sector has demanded that the provisional government prepare a draft constitution.